

JPRS-SEA-85-024

7 February 1985

Southeast Asia Report

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7 February 1985

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INDONESIA

TWO MP'S URGE VIGILANCE IN DEALING WITH PRC

BK160516 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 10 Jan 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] Despite signs of an easing of communist ideology in the PRC, Indonesia must continue to be cautious in dealing with this country as the danger from the PRC comes not only from its ideological stand but also from its interests as a big power.

This comment was made by the secretary general of the Functional Group Executive Council [DPP Golkar], Sarwono Kusumaatmaja [Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja's younger brother], in reply to questions from MERDEKA at the House of Representatives building at Senayan on Wednesday morning [9 January]. In meantime, Vice Chairman of the House of Representatives Harjantho Sumodisastro has said that signs of "combatting" Marxism-Leninism in the PRC demonstrate to the Indonesian people the greatness of the Pancasila ideology.

Signs of rejecting Marxism-Leninsim in the PRC have emerged since the official newspaper of the PRC Government, RENMIN RIBAO, carried an editorial which said among other things that Marx lived a century ago and that his teachings cannot be definitely applied to meet present-day challenges.

Sarwono said that the ideological adjustments in the PRC are almost meaningless for Indonesia. This does not mean, however, that with the ideological changes, Indonesia can deal with the PRC under the latter's new ideology. As a country practicing a free and active foreign policy, Indonesia respects other countries in practicing their own ideologies. According to Sarwono, in its relations with other countries, Indonesia must take into account how far these countries can contribute to regional stability, particularly stability in ASEAN.

According to the DPP-Golkar secretary general, the ideological shifts in the PRC are the result of its own internal issues and pragmatism. This being the case, the changes will not affect its foreign policy. He added that given its history and size, the PRC should be watched because it will try to build its influence in neighboring countries, including Indonesia, to serve its interests.

However, he concluded that this cautious attitude should not curtail Indonesia's steps in exploring mutually beneficial prospects for the two countries, for example in the trade field. As for the restoration of diplomatic relations,

the government should decide by itself because it knows very well how far the current situation can develop toward the possible restoration of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the PRC.

Harjantho, who is also chairman of the Indonesian Democratic Party Executive Council, added that signs of a rejection of Marxism-Leninism in the PRC should not necessarily be linked with a possible restoration of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the PRC.

"First we observe its developments," he replied to MERDEKA. "The executive is more intelligent in this respect."

Harjantho reminded that Indonesia should be vigilant in observing whether the PRC's steps are really fundamental or just deliberately tactical. "For us, the PRC must be consistently watched," he added.

Nonetheless, Harjantho stated that no matter what has happened, the current process in the PRC has shown to the Indonesian people the greatness and truth of Pancasila as an appropriate ideology for the Indonesian people. According to him, the changes in the PRC are taking place because the PRC has adopted a moderate attitude in attaining the target of its struggle. It thinks that the target can be attained more quickly through other methods.

Harjantho added that the danger from the PRC is not only ideological in nature but also from its ambitions to expand its hegemonism. He again reminded that the PRC had fomented the revolt by the 30 September Movement of the Indonesian Communist Party which led to the severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

He said that the changes in the PRC do not amount to a lessening of the communist danger because communism does not originate from the PRC alone. He said in conclusion that communism must be countered, particularly at home, because as a country with a free and active foreign policy, Indonesia adopts a different stand on the ideology of another country. In implementing its foreign policy, Indonesia respects the ideologies of other countries.

CSO: 4213/114

INDONESIA

PPP CHIEF ON NAHDATUL ULAMA, ACCEPTING PANCASILA

BK161110 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 10 Jan 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] As one of the four Islamic parties that founded the United Development Party [PPP] 12 years ago, the Nahdatul Ulama has up to now still not severed its ties with the PPP. The other three parties were the Indonesian Muslim Party, the Islamic Association, and the Tarbiyah Islamiyah Association. Officially, the Executive Council of the United Development Party [PPP] has never received any letter from the Nahdatul Ulama Executive Council on its withdrawal from or severance of ties with the PPP.

"What I have learned from the mass media is that the Nahdatul Ulama returned to its nature formulated in 1926," the general chairman of the DPP-PPP, H.J. Naro, said at the opening of the first PPP territorial conference in Pontianak on Tuesday night. The 2-day conference was opened by Deputy Governor Abassuni Abubakar.

According to Naro, each of the four organizations signing the declaration on the founding of the PPP is legally linked with the PPP unless its leadership submits a written declaration withdrawing from or severing its ties with the PPP. "Without this, the DPP-PPP remains bound by the jointly signed 1973 merger declaration," Naro said.

Naro deemed it necessary to clarify this stand to all PPP members and supporters to prevent them from being undecided in stating their political stand, thus leading them to other, unconstitutional channels. This must be avoided in an effort to create a legal order in Indonesia.

Touching on the acceptance of Pancasila as the sole ideology for the PPP in its congress last August, the PPP general chairman made it clear that the decision was not tactical and artificial as alleged by certain circles. "The acceptance of Pancasila as the PPP's ideology was passed under a high sense of consciousness and responsibility as one of the sociopolitical organizations that represent national assets of the Indonesian people."

Consequently, Naro called on all the PPP members to attend courses on the guidelines for the perception and implementation of Pancasila and implement it in daily life. "We must always refrain from becoming involved in unconstitutional acts, as they violate Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. Those perpetrating acts of terrorism and so on will not only face security forces and law-enforcement officers but will also face the general chairman." Quotation mark as published] I would like to make it clear to the participants

that the PPP and the Ka'bah Youth Movement [PPP's youth wing] were not involved in various acts of terrorism in Jakarta some time ago. Only a handful of persons were involved, just as some members of the Indonesian Armed Forces were involved in the 1965 revolt by the 30 September Movement of the Indonesian Communist Party. The Indonesian Armed Forces were not involved at all in this unconstitutional act. Only a handful of its members were involved," Naro added.

After witnessing the launching of the registration of party members at the office of the West Kalimantan Regional Executive Council of the PPP on Tuesday evening, General Chairman Naro gave a news conference on the development in the PPP following its first congress. According to him, the PPP's present task is to enforce the discipline of the organization on the party members. Every PPP member must act in accordance with law and the party bylaws.

Every PPP member cannot do as he or she likes disregarding the law or the rules of the game. Anyone found to be undisciplined must be punished in accordance with the mechanism of the party bylaws.

As stipulated by Bill No 3/1975 on the political parties and the Functional Group, the PPP has begun to register its members. West Kalimantan is the second region to do so, following the Jakarta Special Region. In the meantime, Naro said that the PPP has not yet made a final decision on the PPP's election symbol because it is still seeking input from various circles. "But, the PPP will obey all legal procedures that have been issued by the House of Representatives. We will be bound by the existing decisions, although we will probably have reservations about them," Naro concluded.

CSO: 4213/114

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

IRIAN JAYA TERRORIST KILLED--Two policemen from the Mindiptana police sector command, Merauke Regency, Irian Jaya--First Corporal Hans Nobuay, age 30 and Private First Class Yopi Imbiri, age 28, put up fierce resistance against an attacking group belonging to the Irian Jaya Terrorist Band [GPK], killing one terrorist. SINAR HARAPAN reported from Jayapura on Wednesday afternoon that the incident took place at Mawan Village, Tanah Merah District, Merauke Regency at 2030 East Indonesian Time on 5 January 1985. [Excerpt] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 10 Jan 85 pp 1, 12 BK]

EXPULSION OF PARTY MEMBERS--The chairman of the House of Representatives and the People's Consultative Assembly, Amir Makhmud, has said that he has received a copy of a letter from the Executive Council of the United Development Party on the expulsion of Syarifuddin Harahap and Badrus Tanam Akhda from the party. Speaking to newsmen in Parliament on Wednesday morning, Amir Makhmud refused any comment on the expulsion. "It is their internal affair," he said. [Excerpt] [Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesia 10 Jan 85 pp 1, 12 BK]

ZOPFAN CONCEPT--Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja says that the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Cambodia have made the ASEAN countries less enthusiastic in promoting their efforts to turn Southeast Asia into a Zone of Peace, Freedom, and Neutrality--ZOPFAN. Addressing a seminar on ZOPFAN in Jakarta this afternoon, Mokhtar said that in view of the international community's support for the results of UN General Assembly special sessions on disarmament in 1978 and 1982 and development in the South China Sea where Vietnam has allowed the Soviet Union to use facilities at Cam Ranh Bay to counter-balance U.S. bases in the Philippines, Indonesia is actively urging the ASEAN countries to step up their efforts to materialize ZOPFAN through the establishment of a nuclear-free zone as part of the effort. According to Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Indonesia should play an active role in promoting and giving substance to the ZOPFAN concept, since Indonesia is the largest strategically significant country in Southeast Asia. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 14 Jan 85 BK]

CAMBODIAN POLICY REVIEW URGED--PELITA is interested in the meeting in Singapore between ASEAN officials and Henry Kissinger, in view of the latter's close relationship with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Although it is not known what issues were discussed in Singapore, PELITA believes that the Geneva talks between the superpowers' foreign ministers and the Cambodian issue would not

escape their attention. Concerning the Cambodian issue, the daily thinks that ASEAN should review its current policy and consider new moves with Vietnam to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality. This should be done before it is too late. [From the Press Review] [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 15 Jan 85 BK]

NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE PRINCIPLES--A 2-day seminar on Southeast Asia as a Zone of Peace, Freedom, and Neutrality--ZOPFAN--and a nuclear arms-free zone has formulated seven principles for the establishment of a nuclear arms-free zone in Southeast Asia. The results of the seminar, held by the Directorate for International Organizations of the Directorate General for Political Affairs of the Foreign Affairs Department were submitted by Seminar Committee Chairman Director General for Political Affairs of the Foreign Affairs Department Nana Sutresna to Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja in Jakarta last night. The seven principles state, among other things, that procedures for the establishment of a nuclear-arms free zone must be made and approved by the regional countries and that their participation will be voluntary. The procedures must effectively ensure the removal of every type of nuclear arms and contain verifications to ensure that the jointly approved obligations are fulfilled by the regional countries. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 16 Jan 85 BK]

CSO: 4213/114

LAOS

PROVINCES MARK POLITICAL, ECONOMIC SUCCESSES UNDER PRPL

Luang Prabang Province

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Dec 84 p 4

[Article by Ye. Fadeyev, PRAVDA special correspondent, Luang Prabang-Vientiane: "Morning Over the Mekong: 2 December -- the National Holiday of the Lao People's Democratic Republic"]

[Text] The Lao people and their friends are celebrating the ninth anniversary of the proclamation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Under the leadership of their militant vanguard--the PRPL [People's Revolutionary Party of Laos], the country's workers are creating the foundations for a new life and are transforming their ancient land. The article published below tells about one Lao province -- Luang Prabang.

The administrative center of the province -- Luang Prabang is surrounded on all sides by forbidding mountain ridges and jungles with paths known only to a few. If one wants to get here in a vehicle from Vientiane in the south, one must overcome some ford or other every kilometer of Road No 13. It is also possible to swim to the city in a launch but only during September and October at the highest water level when the water covers the countless rapids and shoals in this section of the territory's famous river -- the Mekong.

The royal capital, Luang Prabang, existed in centuries-old isolation. Feudal customs were especially tenacious here; perhaps, the misfortunes of the people were manifested more sharply and tragically here than anywhere else in Laos. Sickness, hunger, social inequality, dissension between the different ethnic minorities -- this was the inheritance that remained from the past. The signs of the new are more spectacular.

Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua, member of the PRPL Central Committee and first secretary of the province party committee, says: "Our main accomplishment is the genuine revolution in the minds of the people. The workers believed that good changes in their lives were possible and realistic. The active development of health care and education was one of the most effective agitation

measures for the new people's power. Before the December revolution, only one primary school was functioning in Luang Prabang; there are now approximately 600. Generally speaking, there were no hospitals; now, they exist in every okrug. A modern hospital has been established in the administrative center. The medical school is the forge of personnel -- basically for the national minorities."

The first secretary of the party committee continues: "However, the past does not easily yield the road to the new. Naturally, just as elsewhere in the country, you will not overcome the prejudices and harmful habits which reign among the national minorities at one stroke and in a short period of time. We know that there is a great deal of work ahead of us. Radical changes, however, are being observed everywhere and in everything. Today, the mountain people are equal members of the united Lao family. They participated actively in the struggle of many years to liberate the people and, without sparing their lives, they fought in the ranks of the Patriotic Front. The Mong or, as they are now known, the Meo distinguished themselves especially. Now, representatives of this nationality are now on the forward edge of the new front -- the work front."

It is necessary to mention that the Western press tried during the years of the U. S. aggression in Indochina to create a real problem, contending that the Meo were the sole true representatives of the mountain kray and that all of them blindly obeyed their "king", General Vang Pao. American psychological warfare experts thought up this myth, proceeding from the idea of creating a certain separatist "Meo state" at the junction of the borders of Laos, Vietnam and China.

However, the people, who had risen up to fight for their liberation, put everything in its place. The "Vang Pao" special purpose detachments, which were trained by the CIA, were utterly destroyed by the patriots, and the black general was chucked out of the country even before the final victory of the Lao revolution. Even now, however, you once in awhile encounter sickly-sweet dissertations about this "leader" in the Western press. Meanwhile this figure is not even known to the majority of the Meo. Those, to whom he is known, shake their heads contemptuously at the mention of his name: "First, Van Pao sold us to the French colonialists. Next -- to the Americans. He curried favor with the generals. He ruined many lives, and he forced part of the mountain people to leave their native area by deceit and threats".

One of the deceived ones, who had seen much sorrow in the refugee camps but who had returned home, told me with a bitter grin:

"What is there to say? We suffered cruelly. Grieve for the senselessly lost strength and health. In our hamlet near Pak Beng, about 150 kilometers to the east of Luang Prabang, people now live as you would not see in a lovely dream. The people's authorities are building medical centers, schools and roads; and there are items and cloth in the stores. Many are learning to read and write. No one is being oppressed. We see and we feel how well the national government treats us."

I listened to this story and I recalled the words of the party secretary that special patience and delicacy are needed when working with the mountain people. And something else -- deep respect. The everyday life of the mountain people is difficult and is connected with dozens of concerns which the inhabitants of the valleys do not have. Considering only the specific nature of this kray, it is possible to achieve successful results. And they are present. More and more, the Meo are moving away from their nomadic way of life and from their slash and burn agricultural practices although it is very very difficult to give something new to them who respect the centuries-old customs of their ancestors.

Comrade Vongphet said: "It is possible to talk a great deal about the changes in our life. Party organizations are already functioning in 64 of the 72 rayons. The role of the community and of the Union of the People's Revolutionary Youth is growing. The consciousness and activity of the masses are increasing Here are a few facts about the development of the national economy. By building local irrigation canals, we were able to irrigate 2,400 hectares of land in 1982, and 3,600 in 1983. A thousand hectares have now been sown with a second rice crop -- an unheard of phenomenon in our agricultural practices. After the 3d PRPL Congress, 46 large cooperatives were established in Luang Prabang ... I admit that the numbers, which I am citing, may appear insignificant to some. Therefore, I will point out that 99 percent of the province's territory is composed of mountains. We had to begin farming practically from nothing by breaking the semi-feudal relationships. One cannot also forget that the results of the barbarous war of the American imperialists and their allies will be felt for a long time here just as in the other rayons of the republic. Even now, the Lao land is still larded with deadly bombs stamped 'Made in the United States'".

... A great deal that is new is being born in this remote kray. The number of selection stations and fruit growing farms is growing, road construction is being expanded, and the network of state and cooperative stores and handicraft associations is increasing. In other words, a new life in the northern part of the republic is proclaiming itself at the top of its voice just as throughout the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the country's pulse is beating ever more accurately and rhythmically.

The successes in work would have been undoubtedly greater if Laos had not had to continuously pay attention to defending its revolutionary accomplishments. The intrigues of its enemies in the border rayons have had an especially noticeable effect. Major General Khampha Chaleunphonmisai, the commander of the first military district, talked to me about this:

"Our foes are not stopping their provocative campaigns aimed at undermining the popular system, they are inciting on the forces of reaction who have dug in outside Laos and who are violating our sovereignty and territorial integrity, and they are maintaining dangerous tensions on the border with neighboring Thailand. Nothing, however, will stop the progressive movement of the Lao revolution and no one can undermine our accomplishments. Fraternal Vietnam and Kampuchea are beside us. Our true friends, the peoples of the entire socialist commonwealth -- are helping us and supporting us."

When we left Luang Prabang, the rays of the rising sun added newer and newer touches to the unique combination of colors on the ancient pagodas. Morning was catching fire over the Mekong which stretches almost 2,000 kilometers from north to south through all of Laos. Along with its young republic, the city is counting time according to a calendar which is new to it -- the calendar of the revolution.

Phong Saly

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 Dec 84 p 3

[Article by V. Khrekov, Vientiane-Moscow: "On the Banks of the Mekong: 2 December -- the National Holiday of the Lao People's Democratic Republic"]

[Excerpts] The country's "North Pole" -- thus do they call the extreme northern province of the republic -- Phong Saly -- in the people's republic of Laos. Although this name does not tally very much with the hot tropical climate, it is, however, correct in general. Here, in the mountains, a thermometer's mercury column sometimes falls to the plus 10 degree mark -- this is very cold according to local notions.

Phong Saly was until recently considered wild, remote and deserted. During the nine years which have passed since the birth of the republic, however, quite a bit has managed to be done in the province.

Phong Saly is one of the 11 provinces in the Lao People's Democratic Republic whose birthday was 2 December 1975 -- the day of victory for the revolution. Here, just as in a drop of water, everything that has occurred in our country has been concentrated. Whereas before hunger and sickness annually carried away tens of thousands of people and some small nationalities stood on the verge of total extinction, now we have achieved complete self-sufficiency in food and have created agricultural cooperatives in which yesterday's nomads are united. The first industrial enterprises -- a textile factory and a brick works -- which have been constructed by our Vietnamese friends from the province of Lei Chau, with which we are linked by bonds of adopted brotherhood, have begun to function in the province center.

One problem of primary significance is agriculture. Despite the fact that there are hundreds of thousands of hectares of fertile land in the country, it was necessary to import from abroad a significant part of our food before the revolution. The war had driven the peasants from their homes of many years, and the neocolonial policy of the foreign monopolies had made agricultural work unprofitable and ineffective. This is why the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos proposed an extensive program for developing agriculture and insuring a steady growth in the production of food. These measures have provided their first results already. Self-sufficiency in food products has been achieved basically, and the production of rice -- the country's main food crop -- has become stable. During the last three years, it has continuously reached 1,100,000 tons.

As was pointed out during the session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo that examined the results of Comrade V. I. Dolgikh's visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea, our party and state will henceforth consistently stand on the side of the peoples of these Indochinese countries in their struggle for social progress, the defense of their national sovereignty and for peace and security in Southeast Asia.

8802

CSO: 1807/134

LAOS

EDITORIAL ON MARKET MANAGEMENT ROLE FOR WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Vientiane MEGNING LAO in Lao Oct 84 pp 1, 9

[Editorial: "Determine to Study the Plenums of the Sixth Congress (Third Session) of the LPR Party Central Executive Committee"]

[Excerpts] The sixth congress (third session) of the LPR Party Central Executive Committee was opened and closed with an atmosphere in which all parties, all armies, and all the Lao people made a new start in carrying out their honored duty to defend and construct the nation. In such an atmosphere the farmers throughout the country are emulating each other to take care of their wet rice and to prepare different equipment to fight against possible natural disasters.

This significant congress did a study on a concrete method to make everyone absorb the socialist revolutionary policy more deeply than before. The congress also set down the direction for altering economic management machinery and to increase the party guidance in order to succeed in the 1984 plan and the Second 5-Year Plan of the government (1986-1990).

On this occasion Lao women of ethnic groups nationwide held seminars to actively study the contents of the resolutions of the first nationwide Lao women's association congress. By having the study of different documents, women in many units in many localities gained more new knowledge in many ways. For example, previously they used to take social work activities and their participation in the women's federation organization lightly, but now they understand clearly the Lao women's duty, role, and participation in the democratic revolution.

To make the plenum of the sixth congress (third session) of the LPR Party Central Executive Committee effective, first of all the Lao women of ethnic groups must determinedly and effectively study the plenum of this congress. In particular, they must take part in solving and altering the economic management machinery. Each level of the women's federation must immediately disseminate the contents and advise women merchants to take part in assuring the government's control of goods and money, its monopoly of exports and imports, and wholesale and especially retail goods, to give advice on proper consumption and market management, and put every effort into adjusting prices, e.g., the prices of goods necessary to ensure a peaceful standard of living

for cadres, workers, and combatants. To achieve this the women merchants who are directly involved with trade must determinedly take part in carrying out their duty as good citizens for the nation by studying and understanding the party's economic policy. They must work to stabilize the national economy and to create peace in terms of the standard of living for cadres and workers.

9884

CSO: 4206/47

LAOS

RESPONSIBILITIES, WEAKNESSES OF MASS ORGANIZATIONS VIEWED

Vientiane MEGNING LAO in Lao Oct 84 pp 12, 14

["Problems in Life" Column: "When Someone Is Sick What Should We Do To Take Care of Them?"]

[Excerpts] Dear editor of MEGNING LAO. I am a member of the women's federation work section under Vientiane Capital. Ever since I became a member and have observed its movement, I still do not understand many of the women's federation committee's activities in my section, and no one can explain them to me, especially the problem of taking care of each other in case of sickness or childbirth. If they are members of the ordinary masses there are seldom arrangements to visit and take care of the sick ones. If they were members of this section committee there would be arrangements to take care of the sick persons. I do not think this is in agreement with the bylaws of the women's federation, but I do not know whom to talk to because the women's federation here never has a monthly survey. For this reason I do not have any confidence in this grassroots federation unit. There is no working in cooperation with the youth union or trade union. This is why I am writing to you, the editor of MEGNING LAO, to ask you to answer the following questions.

1. In case of sickness or childbirth, what should the grassroots women's federation unit do to arrange for visits and assistance?
2. What harm will result from the lack of a monthly survey?
3. What good will result from cooperation among the three mass organizations, the Lao women's federation, the youth union, and the trade union?

I hope you the editor will be able to explain this and print it so we can read it. Thank you. A member of the Lao women's federation. (Signed) S...

[Answer] MEGNING LAO believes that what you have brought up for discussion occurs not only in the section you are subordinate to, but also in some grassroots units there are many different things that the members of our women's federation have not yet dared to bring up for discussion, and to solve any problems that will hold back the progress of our organization. MEGNING LAO hopes that this answer to S's letter will be a lesson for the women's

federation unit and all of its members to help them to double their consciousness in becoming a driving force in unceasingly carrying out the work of the women's federation organization.

MEGNING LAO would like to discuss your questions as follows.

1. In case of sickness or childbirth the women's federation committee should make arrangements to visit and assist the sick as they can, regardless of whether the sick person is a member of the women's federation or in the mass [organization] under their responsibility. They should not discriminate whether the sick person is under their section committee or not. They must review the regulations of the women's federation organization on the duty and role of the women's federation which is a mass revolutionary organization under the leadership of the LPRP on the purpose of uniting over a broad front women who love their nation, socialism, and peace with no discrimination with regard to race, religion, or other social background.

Moreover, Unit 1 (dealing with members of the women's federation) Article 3 states the rights of members. Item 5 states that according to the policy of the party and government, when members face problems they have the right to receive assistance and care materially and spiritually. Members of other organizations (than the Lao women's federation) who face problems will also be assisted by the federation. Moreover, the grassroots level women's federation unit also has the duty of assisting and taking care of mass women who are under their responsibility.

The assisting and caring for each other is a firm bond between Lao women of ethnic groups mobilizing them to be happy and active in carrying out the two strategic duties adopted by our party and in the duty of women's liberation. The women's federation organization will be strong and the solidarity will be strong when the women's federation committee in each level understands the duty, role, and significance of the goals of the work of the women's federation organization in the new phase of the revolution and apply them correctly and properly.

Thus, we think that discrimination in helping one another in case of sickness or childbirth by the women's federation committee that S is under is consistent neither with the party policies nor with the collective policy line adopted by the women's federation. If it was an intentional act or there was a need to do so you should check again and strive for a better solution.

2. The lack of monthly checking is a serious mistake because it violates the bylaws of the women's federation organization which states in Unit 1 (dealing with members of the Lao women's federation) Article 2 the duties of the members. In Item 2 it states that a member must pay attention to the organization, strictly adhere to the regulations of the women's federation, and determinedly share their lives and pay their fees to the grassroots organization regularly. Unit 3 (about the base women's federation organization) Article 11 states the duties of the grassroots federation committee.

These regulations indicate to us that if the grassroots women's federation units do not move to inspect regularly, the grassroots women's federation committee of that level will not be able to achieve its guiding duty according to Item 4 of Article 11.

The women's unit's lack of checking the people's welfare, besides violating the regulations of the women's federation organization, also delays the progress of the women's federation unit of that level. That is, the lack of checking leads to a lack of mutual criticism. The members do not have a chance to give their views concerning either strong or weak points to the unit committee or among the members themselves, so that no one knows whether they are doing right or wrong, or what their strengths and weaknesses are, resulting in the idea of ignoring the organization. They often want to remain quiet and become selfish. They do not look at the interest of the whole. Their revolutionary ideology retreats and is replaced with ideas of entertainment.

3. Cooperation among the three mass organizations, the women's federation, the youth union, and the trade union, gives the best result. For example, if a member of the women's federation is sick or give birth sometimes she could be a member of both the trade union and the youth union. If she is a member of all of these organizations, and if the women's federation unit faces a problem, we might report either to the youth union or trade union sections to make arrangements to visit, care for, and assist the member by working together with the women's federation unit.

Having the three mass organizations work together is a collective policy line of our party aimed at improving the proletarian dictatorship so that they will steadily become stronger and a unifying force to fulfill the two strategic duties of our party--defending and constructing socialism. Therefore, these three organizations should not stop working together in order to demonstrate unity in all of their duties. The solidarity of these three mass organizations not only gives more strength to the revolutionary forces but is also able to prevent enemies from easily dividing and infiltrating these organizations.

9884
CSO: 4206/47

LAOS

REFUGEE ON SRV TROOPS, FOOD SHORTAGE

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 1 Dec 84 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Reporters in Nongkhai report that yesterday morning (the 30th) Mr Wisut Wonganya, district officer for Sangkhom district, Nongkhai Province, reported to Major Prida Nisaicharoen, deputy provincial governor of Nongkhai, that there had been gun fighting on Lao territory in Pakton village on the Lao side across from Sangkhom district on the night of 29 November until 4:00 in the morning, causing fires on Lao territory and shells to fall onto the Thai side. Gun shells hit Sawang Niwet temple and damaged the Sangkhom provincial police station, but no lives were endangered.

Reports state that the fighting resulted from the Vietnamese military sending a force of five battalions into Pakton village to live, causing food shortages and creating discontent among the Laotians. Finally the Lao Patriotic United Front Force opened attack on the Vietnamese military camp, and the fighting ensued. Reporters state that the fighting caused refugees to flee from death by crossing the Mekhong. Estimates are that from 28-29 November there were 349 people at Sichtiangmai district, 230 at the provincial capital, 284 people at Bungkap, and 58 people at Phonphisai district.

Reporters interviewed Mr Kongkham Sunthara, age 23, a second-year medical student at Vientiane University, who fled with his sister Maniwon, age 20, studying in the department of anthropology at Vientiane University. The two revealed that their father, a soldier of the rank of special colonel, was captured in 1976 and has not yet been released; their mother was dead; and an older brother had escaped to a third country. They thought they could stay where they were living until the recent food problems occurred, and they could not study adequately because they were sent to work in the fields. Therefore, they decided to flee by way of the banana groves along the Mekhong. Other refugees revealed that they had to hide in the jungle along the shore of the Mekhong for 2 to 3 days to find a place free of soldiers, and when they crossed to the Thai side they all said it was as if they had died and were born again. Officials will confine them in refugee centers.

9937
CSO: 4207/83

LAOS

REFUGEE CITES UDON PHONSENA ARREST

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 22 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Lao Refugees Abandon Their Country and Cross the Mekhong to Enter Thailand"]

[Text] An important Lao individual, with his family and friends numbering 12 all together, says he hired a boat to cross the Mekhong to rely on Thai hospitality in Bungkap district. They were arrested by border patrol police. In addition, the head of the group, the minister of government commercial enterprises, said that he couldn't stand the pressure because his salary was not enough to cover expenses any more, and they are calling for his taxes to be doubled, attitudes that indicate a trend that is not good. Even a Vietnamese minister was arrested, so he thought he would be certain to be arrested. Therefore he had to take his family to Thailand. He will work for the Lao resistance even for a little bit of money because he does not want to go to a third country.

DAO SIAM reporters stationed in Nongkhai Province report that at 11:00 on 21 November, Police Lt Colonel Somchai Suriyasi, commander, Roi 108, border police region 4, Chanachai village, Banphaeng district and sub-district, Nakhon Phanom, and a group of functionaries arrested 12 Laos entering Thailand illegally at Phothichai sub-district, Bungkap district, Nongkai, including adults and children, and took them to Nakhae village for confinement.

Among the Laos arrested were Dr Khunkham Waewpradit, age 45, major director or minister of government commercial enterprises, along with his family, including his wife Ms Monkaew Waewpradit, age 25, employed as a secretary in the Ministry of Commercial Industries ..., and Mr Saew Sivong Insi Chiangmai, age 41, head of the Department of Legal Cases of the Ministry of Justice, and Mr Liwanakhon Insi Chiangmai, age 39, who works in the Ministry of Justice as assistant to the section head.

Afterwards, Dr Khunkham revealed that he had felt oppressed for a long time, but did not think much about it because he felt it was his homeland and he did not want to leave it, even for a different system of government. But recently he could not stand the pressure in many areas. His salary is too low to cover expenses, and he has been called upon to pay twice as much in taxes while his children are not enlisted. And 2 days earlier Udon Phosena, age 46, assistant

minister of finance, a Vietnamese, was accused of private purchase of illegal goods. If he stayed any longer he would certainly be arrested. Therefore he discussed it with his family and friends and associates who lived nearby and asked them to escape to Thailand with him.

Dr Khunkham also said that he and his group began their travels on 17 November as passengers from Paksan, which is directly across from Bungkap district. He contacted the group that opposes the Red Laos to find a boat to cross to the Thai village of Phothichai, Bunkap district, Nongkai. Then he was arrested. He believes Thai officials will not take action because he is a political refugee and will live and work with the Lao resistance. Even if the pay is low, he does not want to migrate to a third country. Dr Khunkham also said that the government of the Lao People's Republic now feels that something is wrong, and he thinks that there will be changes in the government in 1985 because the stipulated 5 years have almost passed for changing the Cabinet.

9937
CSO: 4207/83

LAOS

REFUGEES SMUGGLED INTO THAILAND

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 12 Dec 84 pp 7, 11

[Article: "Thai Arrested for Betraying His Country and Bringing Refugees In"]

[Text] Police deputy lieutenant Banchong Banpramuk of the special provincial inspection chain, Khemmarat, Ubon Ratchathani Province, along with a force of police at the automobile patrol point in Nongphu village, Nongphu sub-district, inspected a vehicle enroute from Khemmarat to Bangkok and, discovering a suspicious individual, questioned him and learned that his name was Mr Phromma Photisan, age 42, originally from Nong-ngong village, Nong-ngong Tasaeng, Wapi city, Wapi khwaeng, Samthong, Laos. With 10 friends he snuck across the pier at Khamchom village, just across the shore from the Thai village of Khamchao. He took refuge with villagers in Dongtawang. Mr Phromma also said that he and all his friends were traveling to Bangkok with the help of Mr Bunloet Inthanu, age 26, of number 31, group 8, Dontawang village, Sanronking sub-district, Phosai district, Ubon Province, for the price of over 2,000 baht apiece. Officials then took all the Laos and Mr Bunloet Inthanu and handed them over to Police Lieutenant Sombun Wichiancharat, provincial-level duty officer for Khemmarat district, to carry out procedures. Later reporters learned from the investigation of Police Major Thin Saenphinit, provincial police inspector for suppression, Khemmarat district, that police officials had long known of Mr Bunloet's role in smuggling refugees to Bangkok for several thousand baht each time, but each time he escaped arrest by officials. They would send reports of Mr Bunloet Inthanu and officials alleged he had brought foreigners into the kingdom without permission, but he would escape arrest by officials. The Laos have all been questioned by officials and further procedures will be carried out following the laws of the land.

9937
CSO: 4207/83

LAOS

BRIEFS

VIENTIANE DISTRICT MASS ORGANIZATION--Anyone who goes to Vang Vieng District will be moved by the beautiful scenery and the abundance of this district. In a sweet but resolute voice Mrs Bounnam, chief of the Vang Vieng Women's Federation Committee, told us about the history and expansion of the Vang Vieng Women's Federation. "Our Vang Vieng Women's Federation organization was set up in 1976. In the beginning we faced many difficulties because the old-fashioned ideology of the former regime seriously affected our women's ideology. However, with the close attention of the administrative committee and the mobilization committee for setting up the Lao women's association nationwide at that time our women's organization has gradually been improved and expanded from the day when there were no members to now when the women's federation network has been expanded throughout with 2,604 members, including 5 district-level federal cadres, 20 canton-level cadres, and 188 village-level cadres. Along with the improvement of our organization we have also attentively and regularly raised our women's political ideology so that they understand even better and believe in the party policies and points of view on women's liberation, their duty and role in the new phase of the revolution, and the training purposes according to the slogan 'the three goods and the two duties.' Vang Vieng District is like many districts throughout the country in that the collective style of living is making a strong new move. The labor exchange units and agricultural co-ops are steadily expanding. Our women have determinedly participated in this work, and the Ban Seng Savang agricultural co-op has made fairly good progress." When we went to visit it we could see that this co-op still has to confront many difficulties, e.g., shortages in production equipment, draft labor, etc. However, because of its production plan with proper work allocation this agricultural co-op is in a position to move ahead strongly. It is limited to only 41 hectares, but the co-op is able to produce over 100 tons of rice each year. Besides the average rice tax and successfully carrying out their obligations toward the nation, all families who are co-op members also became self-sufficient in terms of food. [Excerpts] [Vientiane MEGNING LAO in Lao Oct 84 p 7] 9884

CATTLE SMUGGLING--Police Lt Colonel Niwat Thongchai, provincial chief inspector, Khemmarat district, Ubon Ratchathani Province, learned from informers that during the night of 28 November 1984, cows, numbering [missing text], would be brought across from the kingdom of Laos and onto the wharf alongside Bungkhi Lek village, group 4, Nawaeng sub-district, where capitalists would be waiting to buy them from a Lao citizen. When he found out, Police Lt Colonel Niwat

Thongchai ordered Police Major Thin Saenphinit, inspector for suppression, Police deputy lieutenant Phibun Sisuat, deputy inspector for suppression, and a force of police to go to the place named by informers at 2:40 am on that same night. The officials saw indistinct shadows of people leading cattle from the wharf on the Mekhong. They then left their hiding place and let themselves be seen in order to arrest them. Instead, they escaped in the dark into the banana groves along the Mekhong. The officials pursued them, but did not find them. They then took the 17 head of cattle, both bulls and cows, thought to be worth over 100,000 baht, to Lieutenant Sombun Wichiancharat, provincial duty officer, Khemmarat district to carry out further procedures. This was the first time officials have been able to capture so many cattle. The people who smuggle them across the Mekhong are Laos. When they encounter hunger, they smuggle cattle they have raised, but unfortunately they were caught by officials first. [Text] [Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 3 Dec 84 pp 7, 6] 9937

CSO: 4207/83

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA WRITER HITS U.S. 'MILITARY TERRORISM'

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 12 Dec 84 pp 4, 6

["Pulso" by Elmer Mercado: "Blood Debts"]

[Text] The right to life is the most basic of all human rights. All other rights--economic, political, cultural and social, is pre-supposed upon this basic right. Yet, under our present dispensation, preservation of human life is the least of its concerns.

According to the Task Force Detainees (TFD) 368 persons were summarily executed by government forces in 1983 and for the first six months of 1984, a total of 108 salvagings were reported. These are only the ones TFD could gather from the reports of its nationwide affiliates. Victims of massacres, strafing, bombing and other wide-scale counter-insurgency operations are not yet included.

Most of the killings, TFD stated, were directed either against civilians like farmers and poor settlers, or persons critical of the government and the military under the guise of counter-insurgency operations.

Such a scenario was familiar during the reign of the Diem regime in Vietnam where a CIA-planned counter-insurgency program code-named Operation Phoenix was implemented. This counter-insurgency program, hatched by Vietnam's US military advisers, was supposedly a program to "win the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese people" and save them from the evils of communism and subversion. One of its main schemes, however, was the execution or "neutralization" of identified anti-government activists and personalities to quell dissent and opposition to the US-Diem dictatorship.

Likewise, in El Salvador, another US client-state, right-wing death squads and para-military groups have been responsible for more than 20,000 killings.

In the Philippines, in whose politics the United States is a direct protagonist through its "most reliable ally," the Marcos dictatorship, a similar counter-insurgency program to "win the hearts and minds" of the Filipino people--this time codenamed "Oplan Katatagan"--was hatched. With the able assistance of US military advisers from JUSMAG, Oplan Katatagan

is one of the most ambitious counter-insurgency projects ever launched by the Marcos regime. The similarity in results to Vietnam's Operation Phoenix is also by no means a coincidence.

Other counter-insurgency projects between the United States and its client-states are more refined with each particular expedition to prop up and extend its economic and political interests. Covert operations to remove nationalist "unfriendly governments (remember Chile's Allende, Iran, Grenada and now, Nicaragua), demonstration elections held to showcase meaningless democratic processes, elaborate torture technology, sophisticated propaganda schemes, civic action programs and relief operations by the military and other agencies, cultivation of pseudo-democratic opposition groups to avert possible structural changes among client-regimes, green revolution--these are only a few ways employed by the United States and its client-regimes to preserve and consolidate their stranglehold.

These counter-insurgency programs respect no one and spare no one. Was it not here that the United States employed prototypes of their counter-insurgency tactics against Filipino revolutionaries such as hamletting, salvaging, psy-war and torture during the Filipino people's struggle against American colonialism and during the Huk uprising in the '50s and '60s? These were later refined and applied in Vietnam, Latin America, and now, reapplied in the Philippines.

Today, military terrorism, under the cloak of counter-insurgency, is openly promoted in the countrysides and is escalating in the urban areas. Among our struggling people, some of the best nationalists and patriots have been unduly expended by the US-Marcos dictatorship.

In the youth and student sector we had our share of martyrs.

--Renie Posas, 22 years old, student leader of the Alyansa ng Mag-aaral sa FEU, killed in 1981 while integrating with peasants in Central Luzon.

--Renato Manimbo, student organizer at Feati University and founding officer of the LFS. He was one of the five youths killed in the Bulacan massacre in May 1982.

--Bashir Majid, member of Southwestern University Student Alliance for Academic Freedom (SWUSAAF-LFS) in Cebu. In October 1982 he was manhandled and shot dead by arresting school guards during a boycott of classes in SWU. The killer is still at large.

--Seven students of St Joseph's Institute of Technology in Butuan City who were reported missing in February 1983. They were part of the two thousand students who barricaded the school for one month. Their bodies have not yet been found.

--Karim Dimacuta, Muslim student of MLQU, killed by military forces during dispersal operations in Mendiola in September 1983. He was walking on his way home when bullets intended for demonstrators cut short his life.

--Renato Cawaling, University of Mindanao student in Davao City, who was mistaken for a "snatcher" by drunk jeep-riding military men in June 1984. He sustained 17 gunshot wounds. The Davao Metrodiscom reported it as an "encounter."

--Lakbayan martyrs or "Lakbayananis" Ismael Umali, Ronelio Clarete, Boy Magpantay and Ronello Evangelio, LFS organizers in Batangas City. Salvaged last March 7, 1984, their mutilated bodies were found in a common grave in Dasmarias, Cavite.

--Immanuel Obispo, LFS member from De La Salle University, who was abducted by unidentified armed men outside the La Salle campus last month. His dead body was found mutilated near the railroad tracks in San Pablo City.

And the list goes on.

Blood has been spilt by our people for four hundred years. Blood that has been owed to us by the old and new colonizers and oppressors. More blood is to be exacted from our people by the new colonizers if we don't defy and resist the present-day terrorists--the US-Marcos dictatorship.

We have historically resisted our enemies head-on, we must resist them now head-on. Coming together in resistance, the people are shedding blood in the cities and countrysides so they will shed blood no more. The task is left to our generation--bring down the US-Marcos dictatorship.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

MARCOS TELLS U.S. DELEGATION COMMUNISTS CANNOT WIN

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] President Marcos told top American defense officials yesterday that he saw no reason the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm--the New People's Army--can succeed in its avowed goal of overthrowing the government.

The President made this assessment at a conference at Malacanang where he and his defense and military advisers were briefed by officers of the US Pacific Command (USPACCOM) on the current deployment of American and Soviet forces throughout the world--particularly in the Pacific.

The American officers--led by Maj Gen Walter Schrapp, deputy chief of staff of the commander-in-chief Pacific (CINCPAC)--were accompanied by Ambassador Stephen Bosworth.

Also with the President at the briefing were Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Lt Gen Fidel Ramos, acting AFP chief of staff.

The President said it was only in the Philippines among countries in Southeast Asia where the top echelon leadership of the communist party have either been liquidated or are under detention by government forces.

Among those currently behind bars for subversion are Jose Maria Sison, chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines; Bernabe Buscayno alias commander Dante, former NPA commander and renegade Lt Victor Corpus.

The President also cited the case of Nilo Tayag, erstwhile chairman of the Kabataang Makabayan, a communist front organization who is now working with the government.

The Chief Executive told the American officers that in the parliamentary elections last May, the government exercised maximum tolerance toward even the openly-avowed subversives if only to keep the democratic electoral process alive.

The President also stressed that as part of the government's counter-insurgency program, his administration has adopted a security plan for the country in which the military establishment remains under the control of strong civilian authority.

The President said it was always a boon for him and his defense advisers to receive information which could be the basis for strategic and tactical discussions.

General Schrupp's presentation focused on the security threat in the Pacific, potential enemy forces and equipment, US forces and equipment prepared to counter the threat, and US programs for and in conjunction with Pacific basin countries.

The briefing also discussed the buildup of Soviet troops and material in the Pacific and the Indian Oceans which poses a threat not only to the security of the area, but to the flow of commerce as well.

The officers said American trade in the Asia-Pacific region was larger than the country's trade with the European Economic Community (EEC).

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

TEXT OF MARCOS' 14 JAN 85 MESSAGE TO BATASANG PAMBANSA

HK171355 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15, 16, 17 Jan 85

[15 Jan 85 pp 1, 10]

["Text of President Marcos' Message to the Batasan 14 January 85"]

[Text] To the Speaker and The Members of the Batasang Pambansa:

As you reconvene today the first regular session of the Batasang Pambansa, I want to take this opportunity of expressing to you all my personal greetings and good wishes, and my fervent hopes for continued collaboration between us in the task of providing leadership and direction to our national life.

This is the time of year when, as trustees for our people, we are called upon to survey the broad compass of national affairs, and to consider in their totality the challenges and the opportunities, the problems and the prospects, before the nation.

In previous years, we have filled this task through a comprehensive review of the year just ended, and a preview of the year at hand.

Something of the same is also needed now, but it seems to me also imperative that we address at this time issues and questions that touch upon our fundamental purposes, goals and beliefs as a free and open society.

I believe that this is a time when we must strive to provide a satisfactory answer to a question as old as our republic itself: whether a nation organized and governed the way we are can endure and prosper, whether a system of government based on constitutional norms and popular consent can meet and survive the challenges of ideologies seeking to bring it down, and whether a national economy anchored on the principle of freedom and choice can secure the blessings of welfare and prosperity for the whole society.

This is by no means a rhetorical issue. The answer or answers are far from certain. Though in our history we have shown success in giving root to the democratic idea in our own [word indistinct] and in meeting the aggressive challenge of alien ideologies, the questions posed to us today are new. And all of us together--in this government and this nation--must forge a fresh response.

I stress this issue in this my first message to the Batasan this year because I believe that underlying every major issue and concern of national life today is this crucial period of testing for democracy in our land, for all its institutions and processes, and for the systems and arrangements that over time we have erected and sustained.

This is manifest firstly in the renewed contention of ideologies in the nation today, in the way various forces in the political spectrum have stirred into activity, most in open or covert challenge to our democratic system.

Our democratic institutions are also being tested by the convergence of many problems in national life today: by the challenges on the economic front as the nation strives for economic recovery and stability; by the problems in the political sphere as our political institutions try to cope with the pressure for reform and change; and by the threats in the peace and security area as insurgency, rebellion and terrorism have intensified in some parts of the country.

This period of trial is not necessarily inimical or enervating for the cause of democracy in our country. For just as the finest steel comes from iron ore subjected to the extremities of heat, so also a political ideology can be strengthened by the stresses it must undergo and surmount.

We find a measure of this in the nation that we are today after a prolonged season of crisis and adversity, when the prognosis of so many was of national catastrophe and upheaval.

[16 Jan 85 p 10]

[Text of President Marcos' Message to the Batasan 14 Jan 85"]

[Text] Many should rightly wonder at our country's rebound from the agony and shame over the Aquino assassination, the severe financial crisis that almost crippled the national economy, and the wave of political anxiety that for a time gripped the country. We have emerged from these traumas with our democratic institutions strengthened, our economy on the road to recovery, our faith in the rule of law renewed, our electoral processes confirmed in the eyes of the world, and our sense of national pride restored. Our friends in many parts of the world are greatly heartened by this, but there are those who perhaps are unable to forgive us for not living up to their grim predictions.

It may be that this recent crisis in our national life has served as a catharsis for the nation. It opened our eyes to our excessive dependence on others. It showed us both the infirmities and the strengths of our institutions and processes. Above all, it taught us to recognize what should be our priorities as a developing nation in an international environment that is not exactly hospitable to our aspirations.

The Economy: The Road to Recovery

In the economy, now that we are beginning to recover our bearings, we ought to undertake the effort of establishing firmer perspectives on the financial

crisis that beset us, and on the program of economic recovery that we must pursue. Emotion and panic marred for a time our perception of the crisis, and it was as difficult for the government to explain to our people the roots of the crisis, as it was as easy for so many to make all kinds of dire forecasts about our economic situation.

Events during the last decade provided major turning points in world economic history. The sense of international interdependence that had been growing through trade and capital flows over a period of three decades, paradoxically, led the world to its worst economic crisis. The period was characterized by a series of oil price hikes, acceleration in inflation, and volatility in exchange and interest rates. These translated into large fiscal deficits, depressed export earnings, severe liquidity problems and slowdown in growth of developing and developed countries alike.

[17 Jan 85 p 10]

[Text of President Marcos' Message to the Batasan 14 Jan 84]

[Text] The balance of payments of external debt situations of many developing countries reflected the stresses and strains of the inhospitable world economic environment. The second oil crisis in 1979-80 was the last straw in the series of events. The succeeding world recession plunged the economies of developing countries into turmoil. In the face of weak export demand, international credit contracted as international financiers became more wary and developed economies sought to meet their own budget deficits. At the same time, interest rates soared, thereby, making debt repayments extremely difficult. A 1-percentage point increase in the U.S. prime rate for example, entailed an additional \$5.5 billion interest payment for the combined Latin American outstanding debt of \$350 billion. This took up almost 60 percent of the region's total export earnings. For the Philippines, this implied an additional \$160 million.

The unexpected request for debt relief by Brazil and Mexico in 1982 unraveled the magnitude of the debt crisis. This presaged a more severe credit crunch imposed by lending institutions. In the aftermath, about 36 countries including the Philippines were drawn into a series of debt restructuring covering about 80 percent of the total debt of the Third World. (So far, 29 requests for loan restructuring have been completed, while others remain under negotiation. For 1982-83 the amount of debt restructured amounted to approximately \$70 billion which is far larger than the \$1.5 billion annual average posted during the period 1978-81).

This adverse external situation was already being felt by the country when it was suddenly rocked by panic and outrage over the assassination of Sen Benigno Aquino in August 1983. The fortuitous coupling of the event with the already difficult payments position triggered the financial crisis and sent the economy reeling.

In the face of this predicament, a bold step had to be taken and that was precisely what the government did in launching a program to stabilize the economy

within the context of the updated development plan for 1984 to 1987. The series of significant measures put into play to reduce inflation, stabilize the balance of payments position, and restore growth at a sustainable pace foreshadowed the otherwise fathomless fall of the economy.

If the year 1984 has been an extremely difficult year, it was also a year of remarkable achievement, for it was during this period that we [words indistinct] which were the twin adjustments in the exchange rate, decontrol of administered prices, substantial cuts in public investment expenditures, new revenue policies, import restraint and tight control on monetary expansion.

The consequent strain of the economic adjustment measures has been mainly manifested by the contraction of overall economic activity by 5.5 percent in the Gross National Product and an increase in the unemployment rate to 6.2 percent of the labor force. The inflation rate for the year averaged 50 percent but has been on the downtrend since November. Interest rates which had also risen to unprecedented levels have also been on the decline and we expect this trend to continue for 1985.

In a significant way, the stabilization measures showed positive impact in terms of the following indicators:

Export receipts reached \$5.4 billion and grew by 7.4 percent, better than the 5.9 target set for the year despite the virtual standstill in trade credits;

The budgetary deficit was limited to P6.1 billion as of 15 December 1984, well within the target set in the recovery program;

The balance of payments improved substantially and our international reserves are up to \$912 million as of December 21;

Growth of incomes originating from agriculture increased by 1.2 percent in real terms despite the killer typhoons that hit the archipelago;

Reliance on imported energy was further reduced to 57 percent from 65 percent in 1983, as we managed to limit petroleum imports from \$2 billion in 1983 to \$1.6 billion in 1984.

Foreign Trade Performance

Despite the virtual suspension of trade credits, the country's foreign trade performance substantially improved in 1984. Exports increased by \$371 million or 7.4 percent reaching \$5.4 billion, even as imports decreased by 20 percent to \$6 billion compared to 1983. Except for sugar, copper concentrate and lumber, the country's top dollar earners namely electronics, coconut oil, garments, bananas, dessicated coconut, continued to increase heftily.

On the other hand, imports of petroleum products dropped by 20 percent to \$1.6 billion as programmed by the government. Imports of capital equipment and raw materials also declined.

The trade deficit had been trimmed down dramatically by 75.3 percent from a level of \$2.5 billion in 1983 to only \$613 million by the year-end.

This encouraging performance in foreign trade contributed to effect an immediate improvement in the country's external payments position and to stabilize the exchange rate. For the last several weeks, the peso-dollar exchange rate has been very stable, averaging at P19.70 to a dollar. Just as important, the dollar black market has been virtually eliminated, ending undue speculation on the stability of the peso.

The balance of payments position posted a deficit of \$34 million during the first 9 months, a substantial improvement from the \$1,461 million deficit recorded during the same period of the previous year. Overall, the deficit in the current account was drastically reduced by 46.6 percent to \$1,172 million.

At the same time, the budgetary deficit for 1984 of the national government was successfully contained within the target of P10.8 billion or 2.0 of GNP. This was chiefly the result of a reduction in capital reduction due to large cuts in government equity contributions to corporations and lower infrastructure outlay.

On the other hand, the comprehensive tax package coming mostly from excise tax and additional ad valorem import duty on specific commodities yielded an estimate of P6.6 billion.

The foregoing developments reflect the built-in capability of the national economy to adapt to the most stringent conditions, even as it pursues the recovery program set forth for the next few years.

By the year-end, an immediate improvement in the country's external payments position was achieved. The gross international reserves reached \$912 million as of 21 December 1984.

Meanwhile, progress in negotiating with commercial and official creditors to reschedule the country's external debt has been facilitated by the IMF approval of the request for a standby facility. The financial package under negotiation with the international community consist of the standby facility from rescheduling of term loans amounting to \$2.3 billion from suppliers and commercial banks starting on 17 October 1983 to December 1986; of nontrade short-term credits of \$3.5 billion due in 1984-85, and of principal repayments on official loans of \$1.1 billion due on 17 October 1983 to 31 December 1986. Also under negotiation are some \$3 billion in fresh loans from commercial and official sources, and an equivalent amount in revolving trade facility.

Employment

The effects of the crisis have been manifested in the decline of the national employment rate to 93.8 percent during the third quarter of 1984 over the same period in 1983 and the substantial increases in job terminations, due to retrenchment and reduced working hours by distressed industries. On the other

hand, overseas employment continued to allay the employment problem. Deployed workers registered a 2.4 percent increase during the first three quarters of 1984, from a total of 329,700 workers during the first 9 months of 1983 to 337,758.

To further alleviate the adverse effects of the economic difficulties on the laid-off employees, some P41.1 million [worth of] unemployment assistance loans have been made available as of 3 November 1984. Various livelihood programs benefitted 289,907 persons through some 22,853 projects as of June 1984.

Meanwhile, the daily minimum of nonagricultural workers in the National Capital Region, and outside of NCR has been raised to P57.80 and P56.00 respectively, and that of agricultural workers in plantation and nonplantation areas to P46.67 and P35.67, respectively.

Agriculture

Policy measures were implemented to increase agricultural production and productivity. Support prices of palay and corn were raised to help farmers cover the increases in costs of fuel, fertilizers, transport and other factors. Sugar trading in the domestic market was deregulated, while minimum legislated pay for workers in sugar centrals and independent refineries was raised. As a result, value-added in agriculture was higher by 1.2 percent compared to last year's level. The gains in palay, corn, sugar and poultry production more than offset the declines in the production of coconut, livestock, fishery and forestry.

Industry

On the other hand, output in industrial activity, in terms of value added, declined by 8.9 percent. Mining and quarrying value-added continued to drop, posting a 19.2 percent decline, due to the prevailing low prices of most of the major metals and to increased production costs. Manufacturing and construction also decreased by 5.5 and 19.2 percent, respectively. This situation can be attributed to supply constraints and increased costs of production. At the same time, the big reduction in government capital outlays resulted in a slower pace of construction activities. However, the expanded coverage of electricity, gas and water services enable the utilities subsector to post a 1.6 percent increase.

Reforms in the areas of trade, industry, finance and energy were maintained to address the economy's fundamental weaknesses, particularly resources mobilization and utilization. The average tariff level has been further scaled down to 29 percent in 1984 from 43 percent in 1980.

A number of measures have also been adopted with respect to the reform and realignment of internal taxes.

A comprehensive reform of the industrial incentives system to make it performance oriented was instituted with the passage of the Investment Incentives policy act of 1983. As of September 1984, the BOI has approved 313 projects

under the new law, sectoral rationalization and rehabilitation programs starting with the cement and textile industries have been formulated in order to translate the board development objective into a consistent policy framework. Rationalization program for the food processing, metal working and electronics are likewise ongoing to improve the efficiency of the domestic manufacturing sectors.

Human Development

It is estimated that the country's total population will reach 53.4 million in mid-1984 reflecting an annual growth rate of 2.49 percent. The total amount of births per one thousand population is estimated at 32.5 or 0.4 percentage points lower than the rate in 1983. The number of dependents per 100 working population is estimated to decline to 78.8 in 1984 from 79.9 in 1983.

To effect a more meaningful integration of the population dimension into the development planning process, various research, training and institution-building activities were conducted to broaden the knowledge base of planners of population and development interactions and to enhance the skills and institutional capabilities of concerned parties in the pursuit of great population and [word indistinct] integration.

Increased access to education and training opportunities continued. About 13 million students enrolled in SY [school year] 1984-85 in government and private schools all over the country. Increases in the tertiary scholarships and study grants to poor but deserving students were made. Various training programs such as the MOLE apprenticeship and learnership program and the SMYC training program were maintained to equalize the access to educational opportunities and to enhance the relevance of education and training. In response to the financial crisis, a comprehensive plan for the educational system particularly for teachers is being prepared. Likewise, the financial position of private schools is being reviewed to raise their viability.

Health efforts were directed mainly towards reducing health care costs and utilizing resources more efficiently. The government provided for the release of P100 million from the State Insurance Fund as long-term soft loan for distressed hospitals. Meanwhile, Medicare allowances of qualified members have been increased without additional contribution. As of the third quarter, a total of 1.4 million members benefited from the program. The infant mortality rate per thousand live births is estimated to have declined by 1.3 percentage points in 1984, while the crude death rate per thousand population is estimated to be slightly lower during the year. Average life expectancy improved by 0.5 percent to 62.8 years in 1984.

Pag-Ibig lending rates were restructured in such a way as to encourage lower loan values that will make possible the building on a substantial number of low cost housing units. As of the first semester of 1984, a total of 205,187 housing units have already been constructed through government financing and assistance while some 44,179 upgraded lots and 38,275 lots have been awarded. Furthermore, the Pag-Ibig Fund extended emergency loans with favorable terms to its lower-income members to assist them during the curcial periods. Moreover, the effectiveness of Batas. Pambansa Blg. 25 (Recent Control Law) was extended up to June 1985.

Various social services were extended to some 5.5 million disadvantaged individuals in 1984. This number accounted for the beneficiaries of the major programs implemented during the year, such as the Self-Employment Assistance (SEA), practical skills development and job placement, and day care services.

Updated Philippine Development Plan, 1984-1987

The updated Philippine development plan for 1984-1987 stresses the government's resolve to speed up economic recovery through an improvement in productivity and the attainment of self-reliance. This will be pursued through the adoption of a balanced agroindustrial development strategy. Development programs will be directed to the primary sectors of agriculture, fishery and forestry, as these offer the greatest potential for generating employment and foreign exchange.

The updated plan, moreover, sustains and initiates sectoral policy reforms in the areas of trade, industry, energy, agriculture, finance, and public sector resource management. These reforms reflect the government's resolve to evolve an independent and stable Philippine economy more immune from the economic fluctuations in international market.

Trade and industrial policies are aimed at correcting the problems of low efficiency, misallocation of investment and heavy reliance on foreign borrowings by the industrial sector.

In 1980, the government initiated the implementation of a phased tariff liberalization program designed primarily to bring about higher growth in industrial output and, consequently, in employment levels and to sustain the growth of nontraditional manufactured exports. This program includes the reform of the tariff system and the liberalization of import licensing procedures. The lowering of protection and the consequent opening of the market as a result of these reforms is envisioned to create an industrial base which is efficient and where the country has comparative advantage. Relatedly, a new industrial incentives system was introduced to generate additional investments in areas where the country has comparative advantage.

The thrust of policy reforms in the energy sector will remain to be the further reduction of the country's dependence on imported oil. Continued diversification towards nonoil and abundant indigenous energy sources of supply the energy needs of priority economic and social activities will be undertaken.

In the agriculture sector, consistent with the balanced agro-industrial development strategy, reforms will focus on priority areas such as: the implementation of productivity programs for priority crops; the strengthening of agrarian reform; credit assistance; the commercialization of technological break-throughs; efficient marketing and distribution systems; and the adoption of a rational price system, as well as the adoption of institutional adjustments that will strengthen sector management. These reforms will eventually harness agricultural production and, therefore, contribute to the national goals of improved productivity, export expansion, poverty reduction and generally improved welfare of the Filipino people.

Policy reforms in the area of financial intermediation will be implemented to ensure the stability of the financial system. To achieve this, the system will be developed through the encouragement of bank mergers and consolidation, longer-term lending, regional dispersal of financial institutions, and the development of the capital market. In the area of public sector resource management, on the other hand, government will endeavor to strictly oversee the management of its resources. It will resolve to reduce total public sector deficit to resources. It will resolve to reduce total public sector deficit to levels which are consistent with balance of payments objectives. Expenditures will, therefore, be restrained while resource mobilizations will be streamlined in order to improve their self-financing capability.

Through the above measures, the updated plan is expected to hasten economic recovery and realize the objectives of sustained growth, equity and human resource development. Through the thrust towards agro-industrial development, and the consequent priority given to the agricultural sector, food production will be harnessed, resulting further in stable prices. The financial system will be rationalized and strengthened while the balance of payments and the national budget will reflect much reduced and manageable deficits. Hopefully, the stricter monitoring of public sector transactions will also result in a more manageable external debt position. The congruence of these reforms will eventually generate greater employment opportunities. Finally, a more efficient economy will translate into improved education, health and other social conditions.

Prospects for 1985 and Beyond

The redress of the present economic crisis through decisive and basic policy measures has already brought about initial gains. Further steps shall be taken to implement the development plan in order to broaden the base of the projected economic recovery and make the process more efficient and lasting. Overall economic activities are expected to grow by 1.5 percent in 1985, average inflation will be brought down to about 20 to 25 percent, and the financial situation and the balance of payments are expected to stabilize.

Consistent with the adjustment process, the national government fiscal deficit will be trimmed down to P6.6 billion or approximately 1.0 percent of GNP. The attainment of the targeted deficit is contingent on the implementation of the appropriate mix of revenue raising strategies and the improvement in the efficiency of government expenditures. The latter will be further focused towards priority projects which are supportive of the balanced agro-industrial development strategy and the national productivity program.

The investment program of major public sector corporations shall also be realigned to reflect new economic priorities such as the drive towards agriculture and exports. Less equity financing from the budget shall be provided while internal cash generation shall be stressed. Government reliance on domestic bank financing shall be diminished to have a greater share of resources for private enterprises which is a necessary condition for promoting a strong and dynamic private sector.

The restraint and the refocusing of priorities of the government's expenditures program together with efforts to encourage exports and reduce imports are expected to contribute to a stronger balance of payments position of the country. The current account deficit will be reduced from \$1.5 billion in 1984 or 5.0 percent of GNP to \$1.1 billion or 4.0 percent of GNP in 1985. This will be possible due to a foreseen improvement in the trade balance. Exports are projected to grow by 10.0 percent in 1985 in view of a favorable exchange rate policy, lower interest rates, incentives given to export production and a firmer global demand. Imports, on the other hand, will continue to be restrained particularly, capital goods and oil imports.

Complementing this expected improvement in the country's external sector is the envisioned progress and recovery in the country's production sector. Agriculture, supported by a balanced agro-industrial development strategy, will set the pace of growth in 1985. The improvement in productivity, pricing, credit and marketing mechanisms along with technological break-through in commercial crops such as in yellow corn are expected to further harness agriculture production.

The industrial sector will moderately recover in 1985. The thrust towards export expansion and selective import substitution will buoy up production. The encouragement given to domestic resource-based industries, the continued development of export industries and rationalization of incentives will contribute to the faster recovery of the manufacturing subsector.

Improved prospects in the economic sectors shall be translated consequently to the overall improvement in social conditions. Although we are not completely over the hump, there is now reason for optimism about the country's prospects. The economic fundamentals are sound: we have a large domestic market, a highly educated and motivated manpower; and a competitive wage structure. When combined with the commitment of the government and the private sector to collaborate more closely with each other, these are solid factors for the creation of a healthy climate for sustained economic, social and human development.

In response therefore to the question whether a national economy based on the principle of freedom and choice can secure the blessings of welfare and prosperity for the whole society, I believe we can reply affirmatively.

Peace and Security: The Challenge of Insurgency and Terrorism

Next to the economy, the foremost challenge to national life today is in the peace and security sphere. And it takes the form of insurgency and terrorism.

It can now be said that during this period of economic crisis and adversity in national life, the communist party intensified its activities on many fronts; in the buildup of the New People's Army, in the establishment of subversive and front organizations for political agitation, in the infiltration of labor and student ranks, in the production and circulation of anti-government propaganda, and in the employment of terrorism and sabotage.

As activities have been intensified, communist insurgency has increasingly touched more areas in our countryside, especially in Mindanao, and the growing visibility of insurgents and the frequency of encounters plainly suggest a new dimension to the problem that we must face, perhaps comparable to the perils we confronted in the fifties and in the seventies.

The challenge to us now is to summon anew the will and the resolve to drive back this menace to our society. We must again secure the discipline, the patience and the imagination to turn back this tide in our midst.

One vital part of the anti-insurgency effort clearly belongs to our police and military forces. They must confront and contain the growing armed capability of the insurgents. It is for this reason that we have recently launched a major program of retraining for our men in uniform and an intensive review of our counter-insurgency program. We are also looking into the problem of discipline and morale within our armed forces, which in many ways has considerably sapped the effectiveness of the program.

But the challenge is not for the military and the police to meet alone. For more fundamentally, we should not fail to recognize that we are engaged here in an ideological struggle, in a battle for the minds and allegiances of men. Our shortcoming in this part of the struggle is perhaps great, because while radicals have been busy proselytizing all over the country, we have been less than aggressive and ine propagation of our democratic ideology. While the insurgents have been combining the technology of terror with the power of ideas, we on our side have tended to be smug in our assumption that our ideology will prevail, that our arms cannot be matched. In the meantime, in our complacency, the communist insurgency continues to expand its political base on the backs of human frustration, poverty and despair.

More than ever, I believe that we must again mount a determined drive against this challenge to our society. And we must involve at its forefront our local governments, our schools and our many institutions. We must all recognize that this struggle really and truly involves all--the businessman as well as the soldier, the teacher and the bureaucrat, the local government official and the civic-minded citizen. And we must look anew to the reserves of moral strength and conviction that throughout history and in our time have always marked the way of democracy as superior to the way of communism.

The Political Challenge: Strengthening the Democratic Dialogue

The problem in the security sphere would not be as grave as they are today if the democratic dialogue in our society is not as inchoate as it is now. There continues to be in the ranks of the opposition an unwillingness to distinguish between legitimate dissent and illegitimate dissent, and to abandon once and for all their quixotic flirtation with the radicals. They are quite willing to utilize at every opportunity the legitimate channels for public debate and discussion; on the other hand they seem unwilling to proclaim this process of dialogue and the way of parliamentarism as the only legitimate route to political power.

I cannot eliminate the creeping, suspicion that behind this ambivalence of the opposition towards the radicals, is not so much their political ambitions, but their fear or conviction that the communists will one day hold the reins of political power in our country. Here I sometimes suspect is defeatism and despair that do nothing to advance the cause of the legitimate political opposition, let alone our political culture.

For it is hardly possible that the cause of democracy in our country can be advanced with only the party in power as spokesman and defender of its institutions and processes. Unlike other political creeds and ideologies, the dynamic of democracy lies in interaction--in the interaction of people as well as of ideas. It assumes differences of opinion and diversity in society. It upholds the primacy of procedures and processes in resolving conflicts and in arriving at decisions in society. And it considers as essential the participation of citizens in the governance of their community.

The conditions for democracy are of course many and complex, and we can only touch upon some of them here. But what I really want to stress here, and would remind the members of the Batasan to even remember, is that whatever party we may differ in our political beliefs, we have a common ground to uphold and defend together when we profess to being democrats. And this is the democratic system that sustains our nation and through which we have all been elected into public office.

It may be pointed out that there are and perhaps will always be imperfections in existing political systems. But it is precisely to the credit of the democratic ideology that it provides constantly for renewal and infusion of new ideas. It is this openness to change and improvement, which according to one writer, is the Alpha and Omega of democratic ideology.

In our own national history, I believe we can see the process of change and amendment whereby we have altered our democratic government to fit needs and circumstances. We have endeavored to strengthen it to ensure our capability to meet times of emergency in our country. We have sought to match political democracy with a measure of economic democracy in regulating wealth and introducing planning into the national economy. We have tried to give more attention and position to the minorities in our society.

We will not all agree on this or that policy, on this or that law, but this is finally a question of needs and priorities as seen by the executives and legislators of a given time. And under the principle of majority rule, and the responsibilities of office, such decisions merit their respect in our democracy.

In the year just ended, we have seen I believe several demonstrations of how the exercise of democratic processes have served to strengthen political stability. The parliamentary elections, for instance, became themselves a force for stabilization during a time of ferment in creating this assembly and in demonstrating to the world that we are a true democracy. The recent conclusion of the fact-finding inquiry into the Aquino assassination was a time of controversy, yet it became an opportunity to demonstrate the primacy of our judicial processes.

And I think it is this kind of sobriety and good sense that is likely to dominate our political life in the future. If here in the Batasang Pambansa you can set the example in distinguishing between the ruthless partisans [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct], it is at this time, if ever we needed our democratic system to show its efficacy and strength, it is now. For this is a time of contention among ideologies in our society. And this is a time when vision in our politics can do so much to strengthen the nation.

We face challenging years ahead which will test to the utmost our resolution and our faith. In our political culture, let us ever remember that while we may differ about issues, we should not differ about our faith in our country and in our people.

CSO: 4200/416

PHILIPPINES

MUSLIMS, MUSLIM AFFAIRS MINISTER DIVIDED ON AFP REVAMP

Affairs Minister Opposes Revamp

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Dec 84 p 8

[Text]

Muslim Affairs and Cultural Communities Minister Simeon A. Datumanong said yesterday there is no need for a "sweeping change" of military commands in Mindanao except on a "case-to-case basis" only.

Datumanong, who is the lone Muslim member of the Cabinet, said defense and military authorities should pinpoint areas in Mindanao where change of military officers and men is urgent.

While there is a need to reshuffle military men in these areas, authorities must retain deserving military officers, he said.

Datumanong said newly assigned soldiers in Mindanao would have difficulty

adapting to the customs and traditions of various tribal groups in the region.

He proposed the re-training and immediate pullout from Mindanao of officers and soldiers who were assigned there for years.

He said that in certain areas in Mindanao, several military officers had already lost the people's support for their failure to stop abuses committed by their men against civilians.

Bataan Speaker Protacio Sillipada K. Pendatun earlier urged military and defense authorities to effect the immediate change of command assignments in Zam-

boanga City and Davao areas in order to ease the peace and order situation in those regions.

Pendatun also charged military officers in the area with alleged "command incapacity" for the reported breakdown of the peace and order situation in the areas. (Roy C. Sin-fuago)

ZAMBOANGA CITY (PNA)— A major revamp of the Zamboanga metro district command (Metrodiscom) in charge of the maintenance of law and order in the city was effected yesterday with the transfer of Metrodiscom commander Lt. Col. Jesus Guerson to Zamboanga Del Sur.

Minorities Want Total Revamp

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 23 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Muslims and other tribal leaders in Southern Philippines yesterday called for a complete revamp of the military in Mindanao.

The minorities, headed by Mayor Mai Tuan of Tiboli, South Cotabato and Joseph Banghulot, president of the Philippine Association of National Minorities (PANM), said a total revamp of the military is the only way that peace and order can be attained in Southern Mindanao.

Tuan said in an interview that Muslims and members of minority tribes in Mindanao have been most affected by military abuses. "Our people have been caught in the crossfire of encounters between government and rebel forces," he said.

Earlier, speaker protempore Salipada Pendatun (KBL-Maguindanao) had also demanded a revamp of the military leadership in Southern Philippines.

Tuan said a military revamp in Mindanao will give Gen Fidel V. Ramos, acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff, the opportunity to assign military officers to posts where "they can best serve the people."

Balunhot, whose group represents some 60 minority tribes, suggested that the control and supervision of local police forces be returned to local officials.

He told Malaya that one of the causes of the deteriorating peace and order situation in Mindanao is the lack of control of municipal mayors over the police forces in their respective towns.

He also proposed the holding of regular dialogues between military officers and local officials and leaders of the different ethnic tribes to establish better rapport between civilian and military authorities.

Such dialogues could effectively check the efforts of the New People's Army (NPA) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to win over our people to their side, Balunhot said.

Balunhot informed Malaya that the PANM has pledged before Pendatun to support government efforts to the restoration of peace and order in Mindanao.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

CLERGYMAN ADVOCATES 'CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE'

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 10 Dec 84 pp 4, 7

[*"The Stones Will Cry Out"* by Bishop F. Claver, S.J.: "Violence of the Meek"]

[Text] The Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand (1 Sam. 26:23). Thus did David do violence to his persecutor Saul: the violence of the meek. He could have used the other kind of violence--the killing, hurting kind. He did not. And it made Saul think. It made Saul less persecuting of David.

As we noted last week, we live under violence. And the communist urging is to counter this violence with violence--the same kind of violence, the violence that kills.

This is where we as Christians differ most, I would think, from Communists, even if we may be one with them in our desire to right injustice, to uplift the downtrodden, to give power to the masses. It is not that the Christian must avoid at all costs armed violence. Under very restricted circumstances--as a last resort--violence can be moral. This is ordinary Catholic teaching. Violence in self-defense, for instance. And that self can be individual. It can be collective too.

But as an equally ordinary means of redressing wrongs I doubt violence is Christian. "Put your sword back in your scabbard. Turn the other cheek." These are hard sayings of Christ, but they do point, I believe, to something that is at the core of Christianity; not repaying evil with evil. But does this mean when we suffer violence, that we must meekly give in? Allow ourselves to be tramped upon? Have no thought of our dignity as children of the Father? Just so long as we survive.

I doubt this is Christian either. So what is Christian? Some act, I should think, like David's toward Saul--the violence of the meek. This is not just a nice phrase, a clever paradox. For the action it connotes comes from strength. It also comes from gentleness, the strength and gentleness of Christ.

To be concrete: One of many acts that the government insists on calling subversive is civil disobedience. The boycott of the referendum is one very clear example. Speaking out critically about the present government

we have is another, and still another, striking for better wages in industries that enjoy special favor these days. These are all against certain decrees or government policies, but decrees and policies that in one way or another infringe on human rights and hence by the very fact are acts of violence, unjust, immoral.

Citizens can acquiesce meekly to this violence, or they can oppose it. And this they can do violently, even unto blood, or non-violently, but nonetheless effectively.

Thus, in the case of the referendum, the boycotters are protesting the indignity done them in its farcical nature; in the case of criticism of government, citizens are exercising their right to the free expression and pursuit of the truth; and in the case of a strike, the laborers assert their right to freely associate with others in working to achieve a just wage. The main intent is to correct an unjust law by opposing it, by disobeying it--nonviolently.

But is this kind of disruptive of the general order? It is indeed. But if that same order is based on unjust laws, it deserves to be disrupted precisely in order to set it right again--not violently unless that were the only way, but peacefully. This means--and here we bring in an essential aspect of civil disobedience to protest what they in conscience believe to be an unjust law must be ready to suffer the penalties imposed by the state for their disobedience.

This is the violence of the meek. Christ practiced it even unto Calvary. He violated the Sabbath law to correct its unjust man-made prescriptions. He criticized public authorities openly for their twisted interpretations of the law. He gathered the people together against the wishes of those in power and spoke to them of the kingdom that was to come. And for all this he was visited with violence. And the charge leveled at him? Subversion and rebellion.

"The Lord put you in my power but I would not raise my hand." Do these words mean anything to our living of Christianity today?

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

CARDINAL SIN: GOVERNMENT 'GUILTY OF FLAGRANT LIES'

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 10 Dec 84 p 5

[Article: "Jaime Cardinal Sin--Filipinos Don't Believe Government"]

[Text] The Philippine government's reputation for telling the truth is the worst imaginable," Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin told a group of advertising men last week at the Manila Garden Hotel in the course of a talk on Manila rumors that President Marcos was seriously ill.

The state of President Ferdinand Marcos' health is being speculated upon by everyone because Malacanang Palace has been very secretive about the subject matter, said Sin.

Manila rumors had it that the President had had a kidney transplant last week; that he had suffered cardiac arrest last Friday; and that he had been transferred from the Kidney Foundation of the Philippines to the fourth floor of the Heart Center for intensive cardiac treatment.

Sin added that according to these rumors, the President had been taken by a helicopter from the Heart Center to the Presidential yacht.

But Sin said there were reports that he had been brought to a hospital ship of the United States Navy and still another which _____ the President had been taken to Clark Field Airbase from which _____ as transported to Standford, United States for treatment.

There were even worse stories saying that the President was dead; that the news of his death was purposely being withheld to enable those who want to seize power to consolidate their forces; that the news will not be announced until those who are now in control are good and ready," Sin said.

The Cardinal said the denial by the Malacanang (Presidential Palace) Press Secretary, Amante Bigornia, that the President was sick and the statement of Marcos himself assuring everyone that he is alive had been released "to enhance the impression that all was well," adding that the appearance of the First Lady, Mrs Imelda Marcos before a group of journalists at the

365 Club at Manila's Intercontinental Hotel made the crony press logically ask, how could she have spent two hours at the hotel if her husband were sick?

"But none of these things made the people change their preconceived notions. To put it more bluntly, the people just did not believe what the Palace announced. They placed no stock in what Mrs Marcos did, calling it nothing but a public relations ploy," Sin said.

The Cardinal suggested that if the President had undergone an operation and is recuperating, "all it would take (to stop the rumor mill) would be for one of his doctors to issue a medical bulletin informing the public about his progress."

"The administration is suffering from a serious credibility problem," said Sin, who concluded that the "people simply do not believe" the statement coming from Malacanang Palace.

Sin cited a few examples of how the government had been "guilty of flagrant lies" even in the past.

"Last year, a few days before Benigno Aquino was assassinated, Marcos announced that he would be in seclusion to write his two books. But the public believed otherwise; he was going to disappear because he would have a kidney operation," Sin concluded.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

ESTABLISHMENT COLUMNIST CRITICIZES CARDINAL SIN

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Dec 84 p 6

[Commentary by S.W. Yolanda: "Cheap Statements"]

[Text]

MANY things that politicians say about one another are mainly cheap statements designed to produce a laugh or nervous giggle from their audiences. Cheap statements supposedly display one's "courage" and even "sense of humor," but they do not illuminate, as they were not intended to, the current situation. The tragedy is that our country's prelate, Jaime Cardinal Sin, has increasingly been resorting to shoddy pronunciamientos, as if he were taking advantage of his captive audiences. His most recent semi-antic was his prayer for the "conversion" of his arch target, President Marcos.

The "conversion" was explained as political — "conversion" to democratic ways — but the word itself has religious associations. A pagan or a worshipper of another faith is "converted." Of course, the cardinal could say that the President had deviated from democratic ways and that it was legitimate to speak of "conversion," as of a smoker to a non-smoker.

But it is a cheap stunt for a

religious leader and a non-politician to be ambiguous and pregnant about one's meaning, for his objective is not to titillate his audience but to inspire it or guide it to a form of action.

Praying for the President's "conversion" and accusing him of being loyal only to himself and his cronies is to be expected of political partisans, who, in the high morality of the church, cannot be considered "pure of heart." But a high cleric is expected to be more scrupulous in his "laus et vituperatio," praise and blame.

What one might expect of such an exalted leader as Cardinal Sin, or for that matter, of churchmen in general, is some statement in the order of the anti-nuclear manifesto and the draft pastoral on poverty by the American bishops.

The bishops were criticized by the Reaganite laity of being "socialistic" but this reflected more on the perspicacity of the latter than on the sagacity of the former. For the language of the draft pastoral, while strong, was not cheap.

Politically, we can build a case against the government for all the ills of this world and the next. While simplistic, it is a technique considered by politicians as necessary to victory in political warfare.

But those who profess to be moralists, who consider fairness, justice, and clarity as absolute values even in dealing with one's enemies, are obliged to give us a wider view of the crisis before us.

A great many Filipinos are concerned about coping in these times, with or without government in mind. They feel that the crisis has deep roots in history. They want to understand why we have become the way we are.

Academics try to address themselves to these questions but the resources at their command are behind their intellectual powers. Established institutions like church and government have the facilities, even the talent, to look deeper into the present predicament.

But what we continue to have is sweeping generalization and cheap theatrics.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

CARDINAL SIN ON SABAH CLAIM, PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 23 Dec 84 p 2

[Text] Manila, Sat--Jaime Cardinal Sin, the archbishop of Manila, said today that any talk of the Philippines' claim to Sabah is meaningless because the President has already renounced the claim.

"We do not claim it (Sabah), that is finished already because the President had said that we should forget all about it," he said in an interview with Malaysian newsmen at his residence here.

He said during the audience granted to the visiting newsmen that the President had said that the Sabah claim is meaningless. "It is no more. It was a claim before but now I think it should not be pushed anymore."

The prelate noted that there could be some people who could still be talking about it. "We do not mind. He said the claim was 'a piece of paper' before and if the President said that we should not even think about it, then no more. The case is dropped."

Last week, a tribal chief, Muhammad Mahakuttah Kiram, who introduced himself as Sultan of Sulu, said he would pursue his claim to Sabah, saying that "I own it."

He also said the Malaysian government has been paying the Sultanate of Sulu \$5,000 ringgit a year as land rent and this to him meant that the Malaysian government recognised his claim.

No Prejudice

Tolentino, however, added that the renouncement of the claim was without prejudice to the rights of the Sultan of Sulu to claim it. Cardinal Sin said to the newsmen who had been flown to Manila by MAS to assess the situation here, that the metropolis is still "very secure" for tourists and there is no problem for them.

"Maybe, every now and then, with the economic crisis in the country there might be some kidnapping. But this usually happens anywhere else. You just have to be careful."

The archbishop who spoke on a wide range of issues affecting the nation like the health of the President, said he should not keep his sickness from the people. "To be sick is not something to be ashamed of."

The President, he said, has not appeared publicly for almost two months now and though he has not seen the chief executive for almost three months, he has heard that the President is getting well.

"He appears to be strong," he said referring to the taped TV appearance of President Marcos delivering his pre-Christmas message yesterday.

The prelate who is known as an arch critic of the present administration and is criticised by government leaders as a political churchman whose speeches violate the principles of church-state separation, explained that he had to speak out because nobody else would.

He said the people have to know the truth and should be brought into the nation's decisionmaking process.—Bernama

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO JESUIT ILLUSTRATES 'RED,' 'YELLOW' DIFFERENCE

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 21 Dec 84 pp 2, 3

["Point at Issue" by Bert Tesorere: "Yellow"]

[Text] We came around the Ateneo de Davao University faculty house the other night, singing Christmas hymns to the Jesuits whom some naughty Dominicans jestingly call "The Jews." It has been the norm of conduct of our lay apostolate movement to pay "The Jews" a yearly visit particularly during Yuletide Seasons to bring Good Tidings from the first coming of the Lord to earth some 2,000 years ago.

I did not expect to know anybody in particular at the convent where we harangued the beleaguered clergies who were, at the time, blissfully enjoying their dinner at the refectory as we blazed away with the deafening contralto..."oh come let us adore him-m-m-m-m...Chri-i-i-i-ist the Lord." I was so far back behind our choral group, too embarrassed perhaps to show my face for not having thoroughly memorized my piece.

Then someone from the cluster of clergies called up my name in the midst of the concerto. It was my friend, Father Malasmas, the 20th century warrior-priest reminiscent of the ever-glowing spirit of the Holy Crusades and the apple-in-the-eye of the militant Saint Ignacius Loyola.

"Bert," he said after our rendition, "I admit that I am yellow but I certainly can still distinguish between yellow and red!" Touche. I immediately sensed that Father Malasmas was referring to my previous article in this column where I took a dig on the active involvement of some Catholic clergies and nuns in the last "Welga Ng Bayan."

Father Malasmas, as I know him, is a non-nonsense priest and educator. Many an Atenean graduate who came out with flying colors in life's various endeavors remember Father Malasmas as uncompromising disciplinarian during their schooldays.

Anthony "Taras Bulba" Sasin, a bloody Atenean, recalled how Father Malasmas once got himself between two boys violently engaged in a fisticuff at the school campus with an aim at pacifying the protagonists and came out his

knees wobbly with a beautiful "shiner" in the left eye after the brief encounter. Aye! Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall inherit the Kingdom of God!

If Father Malasmas is yellow as he professes to be, then there are a lot many of us in the jaundiced side of our society, if indeed "yellow" means a sign of distaste toward the glaring mismanagement of our government affairs that led to the present political and economic instability of our country. But "yellow" is not "red" in a way of saying, that vigilance is not subversion.

Father Malasmas admits that he is a "yellow" member of society actively engaged in peaceful assembly with the citizens to voice the grievances of the people freely toward the duly-constituted authorities arising from the enforcement of repressive laws. But he never advocated violence as a means to attain his ends.

As a holy minister of God, he is bound by the Gospel to look after the welfare of his flock, to partake only what is due them in relation to the government and to give to Cesar what is rightfully due the dictator. Nothing less, nothing more!

Father Malasmas is in favor of mass action, if only to dramatize the valid demands of the people from the government. But justifiable may be the demands of the people aired through their leaders in their protest against the government, the Jesuit father does not subscribe to the terroristic and vandalistic acts of the protesters who barricade the roads and deprive the traveling public of their right to avail of the public passageways freely without fear or intimidation. Otherwise, the strikers would be committing grave injustice over their own version of justice.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

ARMED, WELL EQUIPPED MEN STEAL STEEL RAILROAD BRIDGES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by Minette Garcia]

[Text] Only steel rails used to be stolen. Now, the Philippine National Railways is losing steel bridges to big-time operators.

Ten armalite-wielding men worked under cover of night on two occasions the past two weeks, and with acetylene, torches, cranes and truck trailers, cut and hauled three whole steel rail bridges from the PNR's northern line between Cabanatuan and Sta. Rosa, Nueva Ecija and San Rafael, Bulacan.

Mariano Abad, officer-in-charge of the PNR's public affairs department, said the railway firm has sought the assistance of Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP chief, and the PC provincial commanders of Bulacan and Nueva Ecija for the recovery of the steel bridges, which cost P6 million to build, and the arrest of the suspects.

Two of the steel bridges--one 40 meters long and the other 35 meters long--were stolen by the robbers in a single night last Nov 28 from the PNR line between Cabanatuan and Sta. Rosa, Nueva Ecija.

Abada said the two bridges cost about P3 million to build.

An unidentified witness said he saw seven armalite-wielding men cut the approaches of the bridges with acetylene torches, cut the bridges in half and haul the cut parts into a trailer with the use of a crane.

Three other men, also armed with armalites, guarded the whole proceedings.

Then on Dec 18, the group attacked anew, this time hauling the 60-meter bridge at barangay Diliman, SanRafael, Bulacan. The bridge was estimated to have cost P3 million.

A 10-year-old boy told investigators he saw 10 armed men loading the cut bridge into a truck. He said he thought the men belonged to the PNR. Abad said PNR trips to these areas--known as the Cabanatuan line--have been suspended for the last two months.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

NPA PEACEKEEPERS REPLACE BMA IN GOLD CAMPS

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 20 Dec 84 pp 1, 7

[Article by A.G. Feo]

[Text] Sitos Buringot and Biasong of Pantukan town in Davao del Norte may sound ethnically Mansaka, but to thousands of gold-panners, it is a veritable gold mine.

Aside however, from the quantity and abundance of gold deposits, Buringot and Biasong is known all over the country as possessing the highest grade in terms of gold karats. Small wonder that no less than 20,000 small scale miners are now in these two sitios digging and processing gold worth P2-million daily.

The volume alone of gold produced plus the bright prospect of more finds attract people from all walks of life to the two sitios as a swarm of flies would to a jam or jelly. And the exodus to the mines is increasing by the hour.

The popularity of the two sitios is enhanced by the present order there. While only a month ago hold-ups, killings and extortions abound at the mine site, today there is order and apparent harmony. This is due according to the miners themselves to the supervision of the NPA. It is turning out that the NPA's are better administrators than its predecessors at the mines, the BMA's.

The coming of the NPA to the mines was not, however, as simple as that. Last month, bloody clashes between the NPA and BMA forces were so fierce that it resulted into disruptions of mining operations and several death tolls. The BMA, outnumbered and outmaneuvered by the NPA, were forced to withdraw to their choiced ground, the shoreline.

In the midst of these incidents, the military were not only keenly observing. Initially, military men around the area were glad to see two subversive groups whacking each other. In fact, there were talks that the military tried to shore up the forces of the BMA by augmenting their supplies of arms and ammunition. The NPA on their part simply called for more armed cadres from Surigao and Agusan provinces. Observers theorized that the

factor that turned the battle in favor of the NPA was the support of the civilian population and the miners. It is ironic that the miners, all gold greedy, favor the NPA's over the BMA's and even the military.

With the NPA's now seemingly secured as the guardians and administrators of Sitio Buringot and Biasong, government forces are deeply concerned, if not alarmed. To the victors belong the spoils of war. And if the administering NPA's would charge the miners only ten percent out of their proceeds, the NPA must be generating at least P200,000.00 daily.

The sudden wealth stumbled into by the NPA put premium in the price of arms. It is said that a local version of the Armalite rifle called Baby Armalite is fetching a hefty amount of P25,000.00 per unit as against half that amount a month ago. Baby Armalite rifles have become allegedly the standard issue of unit commanders of NPA because of its handiness.

Definitely the military is faced with a dilemma: How to retake Sitos Buringot and Biasong!

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

VISAYAS ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT DECRIMES STRIKE DISPERSED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 20 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] The Visayas Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace (VEMJP) yesterday condemned the illegal and ruthless dispersal conducted by Maj Alberto Olario and his men on the two-month old picket line of the protesting workers of the Metro Cebu Community Hospital (MCCH) last December 18, 1984.

This was disclosed by Bro Boy of the publication and documentation desk of VEMJP.

Bro Boy said that the dispersal was illegal and unconstitutional. "The military has no right to intervene in the affairs between the management of the hospital and the striking workers because there was no formal and written restraining order from the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC)."

He said that the incident is a concrete manifestation of the intensifying militarization in the Philippines.

This is again another violation of our basic human rights, specifically the right to protest against an unjust system and the right to peaceful assembly, he said.

Bro Boy further said that the violence done by the military on the picketers is a living witness on how fascism of the state is operating to suppress burgeoning people's struggle for justice and peace, and to protect the interests and the status quo of the ruling class.

Finally, he said that the military is no longer the peace makers, but the trouble makers of our country.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

CANADIAN BANK FINES CEBU CITY ON DELINQUENCY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 18 Dec 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] The City of Cebu is being penalized by the Bank of Montreal in the amount of P556,000.00 for delayed remittance of its outstanding interest and principal payments this year.

The payments were for the city's loan amounting to \$2.5 million incurred last year and used for the purchase of heavy equipment such as dump trucks, crane, telescopic aerial ladder, swamp excavator and spare parts. The loan came from DEFINCO, a Canada-based foreign financing firm.

The information about this penalty amounting to more than half-a-million pesos surfaced yesterday during the deliberation of Supplemental Budget No VII which was passed by the Sangguniang Panlungsod yesterday during its regular session.

The SP appropriated P50 million, P227,000 for salaries and wages of casual employees in the Mayor's Office, Treasurer's Office, Police Subsidy, Assessor's Office, Office of the City Agriculturist and Electronic Data Processing Office. The rest were for the purchase of the heavy equipment.

According to Jesusa Jayme, City Budget Officer, the Bank of Montreal billed the city this month for delayed payment. In an interview, Jayme said the city is not responsible for the delay as payment was made on time. It appears that it was the Philippine National Bank which is responsible for the delay.

She told members of the SP that payment was made Oct 10 through PNB-Cebu, but said payment was received by the Canadian Bank Nov 7, 1984. She asked the Sanggunian to urge Mayor Duterte to make representations with the PNB for the cause of the delay and how to resolve the penalty issue.

The SP yesterday was undecided whether to pay the penalty or not. Jayme said the City of Debu paid a total of \$239,245 for interest and principal payment of the \$2.5 million Canadian loan, or about P11 million.

SP member Pablo Abella abstained from voting approval of the P50-million supplemental budget because of his objection to the entry amounting to P25,000 for payment of salaries and wages of consultants being employed under the Mayor's Office. (eca)

PHILIPPINES

NPA GUN, FOOD SNATCHING VISIT DESCRIBED

Baguio City BAGUIO MIDLAND COURIER in English 2 Dec 84 p 8

[Article by D. Chungalan]

[Text] Barlig, Mt Province--Four armed men with high powered guns allegedly members of the New People's Army entered the house of a retired PC soldier in Kadaclan recently and took his issued "Carbine" rifle away.

Pedro Banaag, the victim, was bed-ridden when four alleged NPA's knocked at his residence for food. Being alone since his wife went to the field and his son on his way to gather fuel, he (Banaag) answered faintly that they proceed to the kitchen. Two of the men remained on guard while 2 of them ate after which the other two in turn ate secured.

In an interview with Banaag, he said the incident happened in the afternoon of November 7. "One of them saw my ICHDF uniform and stared at my carbine in the cabinet. He therefore called his comrades and got the gun with 3 bullet full-magazines.

"I told them not to get my issued carbine but one of them threatened to kill me but was pacified by an elder companion. As I am sick sleeping on the floor I heard them getting rice from the kitchen conversing as their supply either to Mayoyao or Amuyao," Banaag said.

From this point, with stomach-filled, carbine taken and more than a ganta of rice as supply, the men, armed with .45 caliber, thomson, armalite, carbine rifles thank the old man and hurriedly went away.

Some minutes later his son Arthur returned home carrying fuel. His father therefore called for him to inform right away ICHDF of the place of what had happened. NPA men are still at large at press time.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

PLANTER CHARGES GOVERNMENT 'FLEECED' SUGAR GROWERS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 12 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] The government fleeced sugar planters of more than P5 billion through manipulative schemes started in 1974, a prominent sugar planter said yesterday.

Guillermo Araneta, a sugar planter based in Bago City and resident manager of a sugar mill, told a Batasan sub-committee the money-making schemes carried out by government agencies "have brought the industry to near bankruptcy and caused miseries to thousands of people dependent on it."

Araneta told a packed hearing room of the Batasan the manipulative schemes which deprived sugar planters of billions of pesos were carried out by the defunct Philippine Exchange, a trading firm and the National Sugar Trading Corp, and the Philippine Sugar Commission.

Araneta was the first witness presented in the first public hearing of the Batasan probe on the problems of the sugar industry exposed by an opposition MP two months ago.

In a privilege speech, MP Fermin Caram (UNIDO-Iloilo), said government agencies mismanaged the industry, but quoted bigger losses--more than P11 billion.

Araneta alleged that a government sugar underpricing in 1974 resulted in at least P2.4 billion in losses to sugar producers.

The government paid that year only P180 per picul (63 kilos) of export sugar while the prevailing world price was anywhere between P300 to P650 per picul.

"Considering the world price in 1974 was only P300 per picul, and the planters were paid only P100 less than the actual world price, the total loss to the industry would be P2.4 billion," Araneta said.

Araneta based his conservative estimate on the 24,500,000 piculs of sugar produced in 1974.

"If you compute, the sugar planters were paid P200 less per picul of their produce in 1974, the total loss would be P4.9 billion," Araneta said.

The Philex was able to corner all the sugar produce through an order from the defunct Sugar Quota Administration (SOA), the agency which used to manage the sugar industry, he added.

From sugar crop year 1979-1980 to crop year 1982 to 1983, the Nasutra and Philsucom deducted more than P2.6 billion from the export sales of sugar producers which it monopolized, Araneta said.

The Nasutra and Philsucom carried this out through a "retention policy," Araneta said. Under the scheme, the Nasutra-Philcusom deduct a portion from the proceeds of the export sales and called it a retention fund, he said.

In crop year 1979-1980, the two agencies retained P870 million and more than P1.7 billion was retained the following crop year, 1980-1981. In crop year 1981-1982, the two agencies retained P307 million and more than P308 million was retained the following crop year, 1982-1983.

Araneta said the two agencies retained a portion of the proceeds from the export sales for crop year 1983-1984 but gave no estimate on its value.

Araneta testified he has no idea on how the two agencies the money collected under the retention scheme were used, but said indications were dropped in a letter sent to the head of a sugar planters group based in the Visayas by Philsucom and Nasutra head Roberto Benedicto.

In the letter, Benedicto was quoted by Araneta as saying the retention fund was used to:

1. Pay advances to Philex of roughly P362 million;
2. Pay accumulated losses incurred by the two agencies which totalled P1.1 billion; and
3. Pay sugar stocks acquired by the agencies at an undisclosed amount.

The hearing was marked by the lively participation of the crowd, which was divided into two camps--one in favor of Benedicto's policies and the other in favor of the planters opposing him.

Much of the applause was reserved for Araneta and MP Wilson Gamboa (Unido-Negros Occidental), who was questioning Araneta and who filed the resolution asking the Batasan to look into the anomalies alleged by MP Caram in his privileged speech.

The hearing will resume tomorrow, according to MP Antonio Carag, (KBL-Cagayan), chairman of the sub-committee on foreign trade.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

SUGAR WORKERS LEAVE NEGROS BY TENS OF THOUSANDS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by Marlen Ronquillo]

[Excerpt] Tens of thousands of jobless sugar workers are leaving distressed plantations in Negros Occidental in waves of mass migrations unparalleled in the province used to labor dislocation.

A labor leader said yesterday the dislocated sugar workers are heading for the cities, the upland kaingins and the remote coastal areas to "eke out survival."

"It's a pitiful sight, this mass exodus of people leaving financially-troubled sugar plantations because living there is impossible," Roberto Ortaliz, an official of the Kilusang Mayo Uno, and president of the National Federation of Sugar Workers told Malaya.

Ortaliz also said 40 to 60 percent of the more than 200,000 sugar workers in the province are either jobless or under-employed but gave no exact figures on how many have joined the mass migration to other areas.

Workers who have remained in the plantations mostly receive slave pay and have been forced to let their wives and children work "at P8 daily."

Ortaliz said the migration of jobless workers is really "very tragic considering the sugar planters and the government agencies in the Batasan are talking about problems which involve millions and billions of pesos in profits and losses."

Ortaliz said the rate of joblessness has increased with the lack of funds to keep small-and medium-sized sugar plantations afloat.

"Small-and medium-sized sugar planters (those with sugar lands from five to 50 hectares) who are in need of ready cash for replanting, sell standing or cut sugar to the big plantation owners or traders connected with the sugar barons. So the pool of workers they normally maintain lose their cutting and hauling work in favor of the workers of the buyers," Ortaliz said.

Ortaliz said the selling of standing or cut sugar by the small-and medium-sized planters has spawned "massive joblessness" because most of the 3,000 planters there belong to the two categories.

"The buyers of the sugar do not employ the traditional pool of workers hired by the sellers. It is easier to enforce yellow labor contracts with familiar faces," he said.

Ortaliz said the banks which normally relend crop loans to sugar planters have apparently dried out of funds.

"I was in Negros a month ago and I talked with the big sugar planters. Their general complaint was the lack of crop loans for relending," Ortaliz said.

The sugar crop loans are loaned out by the state-owned Philippine National Bank and the Republic Planters Bank which is controlled by sugar czar Roberto Benedicto. The prevailing interest rate is 31 percent yearly, relatively low for prime lending but high for agricultural lending.

Malacanang reportedly promised the release of more than P2 billion for sugar crop loans early this year but no releases have been made, industry sources said.

PNB has reported huge arrearages because of the failure of several sugar planters to repay old loans, the sources said.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

GROWTH, CONTRIBUTION OF CEBU COTTAGE INDUSTRIES TO ECONOMY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 16 Dec 84 p 3

["Filipino Ingenuity"]

[Text] The phenomenal growth of cottage industries in Cebu is a shining example of the Filipinos' ingenuity and industry. In this critical time, the millions of dollars coming in as a result of the increasing volume of exports have cushioned the impact of scarcity of foreign exchange. Thousands of workers employed in these industries are able to hold body and soul together in this worst economic crisis that ever hit the country. Many more unemployed are making extra earnings working as cleaners of rattan furnitures, poles and shells.

It is to the credit of our enterprising Cebuano businessmen, who have honed their skills in the highly competitive world market, that more and more orders for their products are coming in. Silently, these entrepreneurs keep themselves abreast with the quirks of fashion in the capitals of the world's rich countries, as in the case of shellcraft, where our products are hotly in demand.

It is in the light of these developments where we see a favorable business climate brought about by less government intervention. We have seen the havoc created by government's interference in the sugar, coconut and mining industry. These huge dollar earners are in the doldrums as a result of the greed of the men with connections in Malacanang. With the use of state power, monopolies were created to corner the business to the detriment of the millions of Filipinos relying on these industries for their daily bread.

It is a sad commentary of the time, under the leadership of one man, that many businesses have suffered and gone bankrupt by its mindless intervention for the sake of lining their pockets to quench their unquenchable thirst for money and power. The copper industry is about to collapse and the accusing finger is directly pointed to government intervention.

Cottage industries should be left alone in the hands of our enterprising businessmen. We have to make this warning now as this administration has the propensity to intervene on businesses that make money for the country and its people.

We have to remind our businessmen also to share the fruits of these industries to their partners, the laborers. We know that many of our brother workers are exploited, they are not paid well and denied the enjoyment of the benefits provided by labor and social legislations. If all men would only share the fruits of the earth to their fellow brethren then Christmas would know no season. Simply said it means every day is Christmas day.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

RESEARCHER BLAMES IRRI FOR RICE SHORTAGE

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 19 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] The multinationally-funded International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) is being blamed for the failure of the Philippine rice production program which resulted in rice shortages this year and made the importation of rice from Thailand, Indonesia and China necessary.

A group of Batasan MPs led by North Cotabato's Carlos B. Cajelo and Sulu's Hussein Loong recently filed a resolution calling for an investigation of IRRI's relevance to Philippine agriculture.

The call for an investigation came after a former IRRI chief statistician, Dr Burton T. Onate, claimed in a position paper that IRRI's researches and programs have done considerable damage to Philippine agriculture.

Dr Onate specifically charged, among others, that IRRI's programs as adopted by the government have plunged many small farmers into heavy debt that in spite of the Masagana 99 program, the country's rice production is still the lowest in Asia, and that the present rice production technology—which requires the high level use of fertilizer and pesticides—not only benefitted multinational companies but also deleteriously affected "the physical, chemical and microbiological nature of Philippine soils."

Dr Onate said the charges are based on a careful and thorough investigation which included evaluation of voluminous data and documents, interviews with small farmers and review of IRRI experiments which he himself helped design.

Dr Onate's criticism of IRRI and the Batasan resolution calling for an investigation of IRRI's relevance to Philippine agriculture indicate the growing unpopularity of the research institution.

Before Onate, a good number of scientists and researchers, many of them former IRRI insiders, have already criticized IRRI for its "inconsistencies and perverted research priorities."

One such inconsistency was pointed out in 1977 by Grace Goodel, an American anthropologist hired by IRRI to undertake research at the village level.

Goodel said that the major problem of rice production in the rice-producing regions of Asia was the lack of sufficient drainage facilities to mitigate the effects of seasonal flooding.

She emphasized that, contrary to the common impression created by IRRI, rice production in southeast Asia is perennially threatened not by lack of water but by an overabundance of water.

And yet, IRRI researches have been geared towards the alleviation of water scarcity and the promotion of irrigation.

A related inconsistency was already noted in the way IRRI determined its research priorities in the early 1960s, soon after it was established. At that time, official data indicated that some 60 percent of Asia's rice came from non-irrigated lands, but IRRI still directed its research efforts towards promoting irrigation.

IRRI's attitude is quite understandable now to most critics. The institution is a baby of the World Bank, the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations, and recently, the Asian Development Bank, plus a host of multinational companies engaged in agribusiness, among which is Shell Company, the biggest dealer in agricultural seeds in the world.

Without generous financial support from these institutions and companies, IRRI could not have possibly existed, say most critics.

And these institutions, according to Prof Ernest Feder in his book *Perverse Development*, are "only moderately interested in rice. But (they are) significantly concerned with the production of more remunerative crops, such as luxury food, animal feeds, inputs for industries and export crops in general."

Through its researches, IRRI created a number of high-yield rice varieties (HYVs) which, although proficient in yield and taking only a few months to mature, require massive inputs of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. This later becomes very costly to most small farmers, and last year, when the prices of agricultural inputs increased, many of them stopped planting rice, thus contributing to the rice shortage in a country where rice is a principal food staple.

These IRRI seeds, remarked Dr Onate, "represent an insidious way of sabotaging the very foundation of the Philippine economy."

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

MINDANAO, BASILAN BISHOPS REPORT HARASSMENT

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 10 Dec 84 p 2

[Text] Manila (PNF)--Is the government out to discredit the Church in strife-torn Mindanao?

Catholic church leaders in that southern Philippine island have recently expressed serious concern over what they perceive to be a systematic government campaign to portray the church as involved in a "conspiracy" to overthrow the Marcos government.

"The (Catholic) church is a vehicle (for) the promotion of communism." This, Kidapawan Bishop Orlando B. Quevedo, OMI, said was one of the ideas "disseminated in relation to the church" by military officers during a two-day seminar last month (Oct 22 and 23) attended by barangay (village) leaders in M'lang, North Cotabato.

In a letter to the Regional Unified Command (RUC 12) chief, Brig Gen Cesar Tapia, Bishop Quevedo identified the officers who led the anti-church seminar as a Col Hosalla of the National Intelligence Security Authority (NISA) and a Col Tonelada of the Philippine Army's 25th Infantry Battalion.

The bishop pointed out in his letter that the seminar sounded "like a bugle call sounding the beginning of a campaign against the Church of Kidapawan."

Quevedo called Tapia to act on this "soonest," adding that "perhaps this disinformation campaign by the military in your area of responsibility is without your knowledge and authorization."

If indeed there is such a campaign, "we shall do our best to use all available resources at our disposal, public and legal, to counter it," the bishop stressed.

Seminar participants were also told, among other things, that the "Catholic Church serves as the camouflage of the CPP/NPA and aids members of the movement," and that "almost all priests and nuns are NPAs," although the "Bishop tries to check them but cannot stop them."

Meanwhile, in Butuan City, church leaders deplored the distribution in Nasipit, Surigao del Sur, of mimeographed materials showing a sketch of a priest delivering a sermon on communism. A handgun and an Armalite rifle are also shown hidden behind the podium.

An accompanying caption in the local dialect states "the church has been used as printing house of subversive reading materials," and that the "Gospel is no longer taken from the Bible but now comes from the hills where the military men are always being damned and the rebels being praised."

Fr Eddie Albino, Butuan Diocese Social Action director, said that the distribution of the propaganda sheet is part of the "psychological warfare" being conducted by "state security forces" to mislead the people.

The leaflets were reportedly distributed by men identified with the Nasipit police force.

Nasipit parish priest Fr Harry Van Engeline, MSC, said that the clergy in the area have been actively supporting striking workers and vocal in denouncing military atrocities. He viewed the disinformation campaigns as part of an effort to "silence the church."

In another development, Isabela Bishop Jose M. Querexeta of Basilan, an island off the tip of the Zamboanga peninsula, called the attention of police and military officers of the province to the recent "mysterious break-ins" into the offices of two church-related organizations.

Querexeta said while nothing of value was taken in both cases, he noted that "papers were evidently searched, stationeries...as well as memo pads were taken."

"Can it be that those break-ins were for purposes of implicating the Church programs in certain questionable or even 'subversive' activities in the future?" Bishop Querexeta asked in his letter to the island's police chief.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

NONSTRIKING TRANSPORT GROUP HEAD, 'INFORMER' KILLED

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 19 Dec 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Carlos J. Flaviano]

[Text] Butuan City--Barely a week from each other, two civilians were slain in a spate of violence perpetrated by the dreaded Sparrow unit of the New People's Army last week.

Rodolfo Yparraguirre, president of the Tricycle Driver's Association of Butuan (TRIDAB), was felled by the assassin's bullets only a hundred meters away from his house at Mahogany Baan riverside, this city.

Two unidentified gunmen believed to be members of the Sparrow unit pumped three bullets from two 45 cal. pistols on the different parts of the body of the victim the other Sunday at about 7:30 in the evening.

Authorities conducting investigation of the incident theorized that the victim, being head of a big group of tricycle drivers in city, must have earned the displeasure of the dissidents when he openly opposed and refused to join the tumultuous transport strike last Nov 27.

According to investigators, Yparraguirre refused to sign the position paper of the strikers and even went to the extent of prevailing upon his members to defy the strikers.

The victim was brought to the hospital for treatment but succumbed to fatal wounds he received three days after.

Meanwhile, a farmer of barangay Amparo, this city, was mercilessly shot to death by three unidentified armed men believed to be Sparrows at the Amparo-Bitan-Agan road junction last Thursday evening, Dec 6.

Police investigators identified the victim as Ursisio Maturan, 34 years old and resident of Barangay Amparo.

The victim was walking along the darkened road when he was met by the trio, one holding an M1 carbine, and without much ado shot him to death.

According to the victim's neighbors, Maturan was executed for being a military informer.

Agrifina Maturan, wife of the victim, reported the incident to the police.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

ACADEMIC URGES REWRITING HISTORY FROM FILIPINO VIEW

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 12 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Manila--A Filipino nationalist yesterday urged the country's writers to "rewrite our history."

Keynoting the Sixth National Conference on Local and National History at the Philippine Social Science Center in Quezon City, Professor Renato Constantino said:

"Many of us cannot comprehend the present political and economic crisis because we have not viewed it with a historical sense."

"The seeds of the present crisis were sown in the past. To understand their noxious growth, we must see the past clearly, freeing our historical perspective from the myths and distortions nurtured by ruling external and internal elites to serve their interests," Constantino said.

Constantino is the president of the Foundation for Nationalist Studies and the Association of Social Scientists of Asia and the Pacific.

He also challenged Filipino historians and scholars "to confront the falsification of the past and revive the memory that rightfully belongs to our people."

He proposed that writing local history should involve many citizens, including those outside the academe.

Constantino also told some 200 delegates from all over the country and a few foreign representatives that "the economic aspect of Philippine history" is the most neglected field in Philippine history.

He noted that many events in the past and those happening today can be traced to basic economic causes.

The conference has lined up 20 sessions to discuss on various aspects of Philippine history.

Meanwhile, Dr Leslie E. Bauzon, Dean of the College of Arts and Social Sciences and chairman of the ongoing conference, conferred posthumous awards of the National Historical Society on three outstanding historians.

Awarded were Nicolas Zafra of the University of the Philippines for his exemplary studies on historical truths; Horacio V. De la Costa, S.J., of the Ateneo de Manila University for pioneering in cultural activities and for his distinctive style in writing history; and Eufronio M. Alip of the University of Santo Tomas for being the founder of the Philippine National Historical Society. (PNA)

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

RED CROSS REPORT ON POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 15-16 Dec 84

[15 Dec 84 p 2]

[Article by Ed Maranan, PNF correspondent: "Near 6 Million Filipinos Displaced Under Marcos Regime"]

[Text] Manila--Nearly 6 million Filipinos have been forced to flee since the declaration of martial law in 1972.

This figure represents 11 percent of the country's total population. It does not include victims of urban relocation, nor the 300,000 Muslim refugees who are now in Sabah, Malaysia, driven out of Mindanao, Southern Philippines, by the government's decade-old war against the Moro National Liberation Front.

This is a tragedy of staggering proportions that has largely been ignored locally and internationally, and yet the problem appears to even overshadow the refugee situation in most war-torn countries of the world, including Indochina and Afghanistan.

The Philippine National Red Cross is said to have submitted a confidential report to the International Committee of the Red Cross detailing facts and figures concerning displaced Filipinos. This PNRC report has since been disowned by President Marcos, for quite obvious reasons. Its existence was even denied later by the PNRC. But the magnitude of relief assistance extended by both PNRC and the ICRC and the huge number of Filipinos they have attended to in recent times would tend to lend credence to the controversial report.

According to the document, 5,704,913 persons, or a total of 1,040,206 families, were displaced between 1972 and the first quarter of 1984. Significantly, almost all cases of displacement occurred in areas where the government has been active in counter-insurgency operations. These include Samar and Leyte in the Visayan islands; Davao, Cotabato, Zamboanga, Agusan, Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental in Mindanao; Ifugao, Kalinga-Apayao, Abra, Isabela, Cagayan, Camarines Norte and Camarines Sur in Luzon.

The newly organized Ecumenical Commission for Displaced Families and Communities (ECDFC) describes "displaced persons" as individuals who have been forced from their areas of residence to other areas due to natural calamities, civil strife, and government projects, among others. This forced transfer, brought about by conditions that make it extremely difficult or even dangerous for the people to stay in their original place of residence, may involve families or even whole communities.

Given the sheer magnitude of the displacement of entire rural populations over the years, the ECDFC noted that it is ironic for the Marcos government to have churned out so much publicity about Philippine hospitality accorded the 10,000 Vietnamese refugees now housed at the sprawling Refugee Processing Center in Bataan province, while hiding the fact that it has been directly responsible for turning almost 6 million of its own people into refugees.

[16 Dec 84 pp 2, 8]

[Text] The stories told about displaced people in various regions of the Philippines are so heartrending as to make one wonder if there is still some shred of sanity left in those authorities charged with mapping out "development plans" and "pacification" programs, as well as in their underlings whose only language in dealing with the people is brute force. The ECDFC report gives accounts of village strafing and bombing, arbitrary arrest and detention, burning of houses and larvests, plunder and looting, sexual abuse of women, kidnapping of children, assassination and summary execution, torture and massacre of civilians suspected of being either NPA rebels or sympathizers, and many other forms of inhuman cruelty.

Another tragedy takes up where the brutality of mass evacuation leaves off. In their new places of assignation which turn out to be no better than concentration camps or strategic hamlets under heavy guard and subjected to strict curfew hours, the dazed and battered refugees find themselves in makeshift shelters without adequate sanitation facilities. They live in constant hunger, cheated of the meager rations provided by charitable organizations, because their enterprising guardians have somehow managed to divert these to markets in Metro Manila. In these camps there are frequent outbreaks of epidemics which take the heaviest toll on the children. In a country where high infant mortality rates and malnutrition levels have been the order of the day for ages, a relocation center (euphemism for strategic hamlet) simply spells hell for children.

The forcible evacuation of millions of people is eloquent proof of the near-total collapse of the Philippine government's approach to development and pacification. According to the ECDFC, there are three main causes for the displacement of families and entire communities.

Government military campaigns top the list. In the PNRC report, the biggest numbers of displacement occurred during the years 1973-1975, 1982-1983, during which the most massive military operations were launched in the countryside.

Logging and land-grabbing operations by transnational corporations and government cronies permanently dispossess peasant settlers of the land they have cleared and tilled for years, and the indigenous national minority groups of their ancestral lands, which have known only tribal stewardship and not documentary ownership, since time immemorial.

Massive infrastructure projects funded by foreign banks in partnership with the present government have driven people off their land--to make way for projects that can only serve to reinforce the dependence of the Philippine economy on the export of agricultural and extractive products. In turn, these site-improvement and energy-accessible projects further stimulate land-grabbing operations by foreign corporations and crony investors. The classic examples in the Philippines are the Pantabangan Dam in Nueva Ecija, Central Luzon, whose population of 18,000 was displaced, driven from their land and peasant livelihood, and now reduced to selling their labor-power to the National Irrigation Corporation mainly as underpaid workers who are continually laid off; and the Ambuklao Dam in Benguet Province, whose construction in the 1950s wiped out an Igorot community, its members transformed into uprooted wanderers and its culture forever sundered.

Misery and death may have no permanent dominion, but they certainly dog the steps of millions of Filipinos who continue to be squatters, refugees, and slaves in their own country, deprived of their land and their freedom. (PNF)

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

STATUS, CASUALTIES OF CONTINUED TRIBAL WARFARE REPORTED

Baguio City BAGUIO MIDLAND COURIER in English 2 Dec 84 pp 1, 16

[Article by Ben Moga: "Baccari-Lubo Pact Still Broken"]

[Text] Bontoc, Mt Province--The peace pact or budong between Baccarri, Paracelis Mt Province, and Lubo, Pangul, Kalinga-Apayao which was broken when tribal war broke out in 1982 could not be restored until the claims for indemnities shall have been fully paid by the aggressors.

This was the response of Paracelis mayor Anastacia Sagel when asked by the military authorities to report on the status of the three-year old tribal war involving Baccarri and Lubo Pangul which up to the present remained unsettled.

The lady town mayor disclosed during recent peace conference attended by some municipal mayors and military authorities presided over by task force AMIANAN commander and concurrent RUC-1 commander Brig Gen Tomas Dumpit that several attempts were made in the past to settle the issues and problems adversely affecting her own people and the neighboring Kalinga tribes but no sign of progress as the other side appeared unwilling or adamant to pay reasonable demands of the aggrieved parties which is normally a pre-requisite for the restoration of a broken budong. Lubo, Pangul tribesmen, were the first to attack Baccarri, she said.

Provincial PC-INP commander Lt Col Leon Badival released the names of nine civilians and one government soldier who were casualties of the tribal war on the side of Mt Province. Killed in 1982 were Potic Dalton, Emilio Taluyan, Ludivino Galas, Salvador Galas, Alban Pili and Silvino Umayat.

One victim in 1983 was Cornelio Castillo. This year Dalangoy Nattabac and Felix Soriano and a government trooper belonging to the peace keeping force sent to Baccarri died of gunshot wounds identified as constable Roberto Cornejo was killed.

Sagel, who is also president of Mt Province mayors league, renewed her appeal for a joint top level peace dialogue to include provincial governors, sangguniang panlalawigan members of Mt Province and Kalinga-Apayao and military authorities of Region 1 and 2.

She said because of the unresolved conflict of the minorities in the Cordillera inhabitants of [line missing] evacuated since 1982 and many of them settled temporarily at Paracelis, Poblacion while others joined their relatives in another municipalities. They are afraid to return home for fear of being killed by armed tribesmen from Kalinga.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

ARTICLE SURVEYS GROWTH, VARIETY OF 'PROTEST ART'

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 10 Dec 84 p 6

[Article by Ed Maranan: "Portrait of Social Decay--Crisis and Protest Art in the Philippines"]

[Excerpt] Above the surging mass protesters, giant murals are held aloft. One of them shows the faces of contemporary Filipinos now revered as heroes of the people. Macli-ing Dulag, the Kalinga chieftain. Bobby de la Paz and Johnny Escandor, doctors who served in the countryside. Edgar Jopson, former student leader. Ninoy Aquino, oppositionist.

All are dead now, but still they live in legend, in poetry, in songs, and in artworks such as these murals.

In front of a foreign embassy huge paper mache effigies that a folk art museum would be proud to own go up in flames. Goodbye Uncle Sam and Mr Strongman. Human beings do not have a monopoly of the dubious horror of getting burned in effigy. A few days ago, styrofoam facsimiles of the Philippine peso bill, blown up into a size deemed commensurate with the magnitude of the economic crisis, and again rendered 'so wittily--like some Warhol art object--went up in flames too before another foreign embassy whose government supports the Marcos government with loans.

In a certain gallery, a group of "social realists" as those visual artists with a distinct political message in their works have come to be known-- are displaying their latest works. The controversial Philippine nuclear plant transformed surrealistically into a giant skull; workers in revolt; peasants groaning under the yoke of fruitless toil but with fire in their eyes; a typical urban shantytown; hollow-eyed, pot-bellied, reed thin children; and other similar themes, collectively portray the vision of these artists, who belong to the Protest Art movement in the Philippines.

Protest art made itself felt here in the early Seventies, with the dramatic upsurge of student activism that radicalized many sectors of society. Academics and factory workers, teachers and students, petitbourgeois and urban poor, poets and painters took to the streets then to denounce what they considered as the basic evils plaguing Philippine society: imperialism, feudalism, bureaucrat capitalism, fascism.

Almost fifteen years have since passed. The Philippine crisis is more malignant than ever, and millions more have been roused to action as economic conditions take a turn for the worse and human rights violations escalate.

For many Filipino artists, these developments are social realities processed out of neo-colonial structures--thus, the inevitable main theme in their works is the sinister presence of an alien manipulator in the macabre puppet theater of the Philippine ruling classes.

The visual artists are not alone in projecting this interpretation of social reality. Poets, playwrights, song composers, and novelists have also focused on the neo-colonial aspects of Philippine history from what has come to be known as the Third World viewpoint.

Their works, singly and collectively, are social analysis, criticism and aesthetic statement combined. But does the Establishment (both political rulers and taste dictators see their art in this light? Certainly not. For social realism, they read propaganda. Confronted with revolutionary aesthetics and people's art forms, they cry Bolshevism. With each art group or movement that emerges, attacking the powers that be with ingenious caricatures, long-lasting murals or expendable figures, satirical poems, workers' and peasants' plays, the state perceives another cultural "front organization."

The CAP, or Concerned Artists of the Philippines, now the country's most important association of artists from all fields of expression, has lately been so branded.

The Marcos government in recent years has shown itself to be violently allergic to the protest art movement. When celebrated playwright Boni Ilagan's Pagsambang Bayan (People's Worship) was performed some years ago, its outspoken director, Behn Cervantes, was arrested and detained.

More recently, a street play performance in one of the many protest rallies condemning the sudden and unjustified gasoline price hike was disrupted by the police and the performers harassed.

The vicious hand of the death squad has begun hitting at artists, too. Bong Me

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PHILIPPINES

TRIBE DENOUNCES BICOL LANDGRABBING, PRIVATE ARMY

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 12 Dec 84 p 3

[Article by Benjie Guevarra]

[Text] Naga City--More than 2,000 Aetas are up in arms against a big-time businessman who has reportedly hired military and paramilitary troopers who have allegedly "salvaged" at least 30 of their kin so far in an attempt to drive them out and take control of a government reservation at the foot of Mt Isarog in the Camarines Sur town of Ocampo, some 40 kilometers from this city.

Leaders of this tribal group, locally known as "Agtas," also lambasted authorities for allegedly putting in the freezer their plea to have proper steps taken against a Manila based businessman-farmer who has reportedly taken over since 1976 parcels of prime agricultural land in a 1,553-hectare government-sanctioned reservation in Barangay Pinit, Ocampo.

These alleged abuses have spawned fear and apprehension among the more than 500 Aetas families living in the reservation who have been deprived of their only means of livelihood, sources revealed.

Tribal chief Demetrio Rodriguez told Malaya that constabulary, army and CHDF soldiers hired by the trader forcibly ejected 200 "Agta" families so far from about 140 hectares of choice lands they have planted to rice, corn, mongo and camote.

He claimed these "security guards" have already "salvaged" (summary execution) about 30 of their relatives and inflicted other forms of military atrocities on countless others, since the soldiers arrived in 1976 in an effort to sow a climate of fear and drive them out of the reservation.

One of the victims of these military assaults, Domingo Rubia, who at 80 years of age is the oldest member of the "Agta" community, alleged that some four hectares planted by his family to cash crops were destroyed by the soldiers when they started to put up barbed-wire fences all over the area several years back. The men through the "help" of the armed troopers, have planted sugarcane in these areas since then, Rubia said.

The trader reportedly directed his armed men to eject the former occupants on the strength of a land title supposed to cover portions of their reservation.

According to Rodriguez, however, they have initially resisted the entry of these men since the area has been identified as an "Agta" reservation by virtue of proclamation order no. 1 issued by then Governor-General W. Cameron Forbes on Feb 27, 1913. The tribal chief furnished Malaya documents showing that Forbes established the said reservation in sitios Gatbo, Paunlong, Ibago, and Maybanga of Barrio Mabatobato, which is now the town of Ocampo.

They have even brought the matter to the attention of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, who came to the Bicol Region sometime in 1981, the tribal chief said, adding, however, that their plea has apparently "fallen on deaf ears."

Rodriguez and Rubia reiterated their plea to Natural Resources Minister Rodolfo del Rosario who came over to the region late last week. The "Agta" leaders "cornered" the MNR chief following his dialogue with local officials at the Bicol River Basin Development Program (BRBDP) office in Pili, Camarines Sur last Friday.

They were also able to present their problem to Lands Bureau Director Ramon Cassanova and even regional director Flor Pelayo, whom they claimed had refused to meet with them earlier.

Pelayo said the cadastral survey which was started recently will reach the said reservation anytime now.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

RAMOS ON NPA ARMS 'BUYING SPREE' ABROAD

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 17 Dec 84 p 6

[Text] Manila (AFP)--The Philippine Armed Forces chief said the other day communist insurgents were on a "buying spree" for arms abroad, but said this did not indicate any foreign country was supporting them, the Philippine News Agency (PNA) reported.

Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos, acting military chief of staff said the arms purchases showed that the communist New People's Army (NPA) had generated enough funds from "taxation" of peasants, the agency added.

But Lt Gen Ramos added that this was not hard evidence to support reports that a foreign country was directly financing the local communist movement, the agency said.

The Armed Forces boss reportedly named Father Luis Jalandoni, a Roman Catholic Priest who represents the communist-led National Democratic Front (NDF) outside the country, as the head of one of the NPA's arms-buying missions.

The NPA is the military wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and has been waging a Maoist campaign in the Philippine countryside since 1969.

Peking had links with the CPP-NPA until the establishment of normal diplomatic relations with Manila in 1975.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

RIGHTS GROUP DENOUNCES OFFICIAL'S PRIVATE ARMY

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 19 Dec 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Dol Onez]

[Text] The Davao Oriental Human Rights Movement (DOHRM), a multi-sectoral group composed of organized units, including the clergy have strongly denounced a ranking government official for organizing and maintaining a "private army" in Davao Oriental.

In their joint "Statement of Concern" made before the public during the Universal Declaration of Human Rights day celebration last week, they said that this government official, whose name is withheld for obvious reason pending confirmation, recruited BMA and NPA returnees including known thugs and hooligans in the province to undergo a 25-day rigid combat military training after which they will be armed to work for the economic aggrandizement of the said government official and his Filipino-Chinese logging business partner.

The training which started December 5 and will end December 20 has raised quizzical eyebrows of some prominent persons of Davao Oriental. Well-meaning citizens are also apprehensive of the official's "private army." They said the move will just invite more chaos and violence in the province.

Informations gathered from a non-commissioned army officer of the 205 Controlling Team headquarters of the Army Airborne based in Mati headed by Capt Santiago Ortiz, who is reportedly supervising the training of the group indicated that the training was previously cleared from the Regional Unified Command (RUC).

Davao Oriental governor, Francisco G. Rabat was allegedly the one who interceded for the approval of the training of the group at Sitio Manggihay, Dahican, Mati, Davao Oriental from Brig Gen Jaime Echeverria, RUC Commander.

Sitio Manggihay, it was learned, is just a stones-throw away from Gov Rabat's residence at Dahican.

The Davao Oriental Human Rights Movement (DOHRM) headed by the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG) led by lawyer Arturo B. Ladera, Eugene Valles, Galileo Sibala pointed out two top interesting issues during the public forum.

They said that "we are undergoing abnormal era where there are too many laws and very little justice, laws are enacted more for the benefit of the power holders than for the people."

The group also criticized the present administration saying that "we are in a government which is suspicious, if not afraid, of its own people, laws that overemphasize protection of national security at the expense of our basic human rights and above all, they said the majesty of the law has been transformed into the law of "his majesty."

The joint statement of concern of the DOHRM also bewailed that there seems to be a conspiracy of silence and indifference among those in authority who should check or denounce the destructive activities of some erring government officials.

They charged that the present administration is afraid of the truth and a government that is afraid to tell the truth loses contact with reality and because of this the destiny of the Filipino people is uncertain.

Because of these abnormal things evident in our present era, the DOHRM said there is a need to reassert the supremacy of individual human rights and freedom, a need to restructure the government in order to make it responsible to the needs and aspirations of the Filipino people, repeal of Amendment No 6 and other repressive decrees, reason must not be subordinated to brute force and the logic of bullets and there is a need to lessen militarization in Mindanao but rather increase more economic upliftments.

Bishop Villena of Tagum also spoke on the basic human rights during the occasion.

CSO: 4200/403

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO DEL NORTE 'SPARROWS' KILL SIX

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 20 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Tagum, Davao del Norte—A barangay councilman, a militiaman and four others were executed by the Sparrow Unit, the liquidation squad of the New People's Army last Monday as the insurgency problem continued to escalate in this province.

Stabbed to death by three young NPA hitmen at barangay Buan, Asuncion was Cayetano Doctolero, 52, a member of the sangguniang barangay of said place. The victim sustained several stab wounds in the breast and abdomen.

According to Sgt Carlito Alejo, PC/INP detachment commander of Buan, the victim was threatened by the rebels of liquidation if he would not support their movement. Despite the threats, the slain barangay official remained steadfast in his loyalty to the Republic, Alejo said.

A civilian home defense force (CHDF) volunteer who was requested by a barangay captain to help maintain peace and order during the duration of the fiesta celebration of a sitio was also stabbed to death by three members of the Sparrow Unit.

Killed by NPA hitmen was CHDF Julito Sapico, 34, of barangay New Bohol, New Corella. He died on the spot from multiple stab wounds inflicted in different parts of his body.

Initial investigation disclosed that the victim has been long earmarked for liquidation by the rebels for his uncompromising stand against insurgency.

A young farmer was shot to death inside a dancing hall at barangay Mapaca Compostela by two armed men described to be in their early twenties early Monday evening.

Dead on the spot from two bullet wounds from a .45 caliber pistol on the nape and head was Avelino Somosot, 25, single. The suspects fled towards barangay Bagongon also of Compostela town after killing another farmer.

Probers said Celedonio Duja, 32, was about to take his supper with his wife and children when two armed men all clad in fatigue uniforms barged into their residence.

At gunpoint the victim was dragged downstairs where he was shot to death despite the plea for understanding of his wife and four children.

Almost at the same time at barangay Camanlangan, New Bataan, a certain Romeo Josol, 27, was gunned down inside a dancing hall by three good looking armed men.

Capt Francisco Gulle, New Bataan police station commander, said before the killing the suspects who introduced themselves as college students from Davao City, pretended to be looking for the victim to help them in their school experiment.

A banana plantation worker Christmas bonus was waylaid and stabbed to death by three unidentified young men at barangay Sto. Nino, Kapalong at about 5:45 o'clock late Monday afternoon.

The victim Inocencio Bacue, 25, died on the spot from multiple stab wounds. His wallet and wrist watch were carted by the suspects who fled on foot towards barangay Katipunan, also of said town. (LAO)

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

MANILA COMMAND WARNS OF FURTHER UNREST

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Constabulary Metropolitan Command yesterday warned of more civil disturbances in Metro Manila in the coming months as a result of alleged infiltration and agitation activities of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Acting Metrocom chief Brig Gen Victor Natividad sounded out the warning in a meeting of the Manila Peace and Order Council at the Manila Hotel.

"The number of civil disturbances is expected to escalate in the coming months for this is the main form of protest used by the radical elements in their bid to change the national leadership," Natividad said.

He added that the CPP will continue to try to dominate the protest movement and create an "atmosphere of state repression" by antagonizing and provoking security men during mass actions so that the government will be forced to institute drastic counter measures.

The acting Metrocom chief added, "We are aware that we are up against not ordinary criminals, but a determined few who seek to introduce in our land an ideology that is alien to the Filipino character and people."

Natividad said that radical elements "are ready to pursue their political and ideological ends by whatever means--coercion, intimidation, treachery, arson, murder and assassination."

Earlier, Manila police chief Brig Gen Narciso Cabrera reported that crime incidence in the city has declined.

At the same meeting, Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing pledged all-out assistance to the Western Police District as he appealed to hotel security men in the city to remain vigilant against arsonists and other lawless elements.

Both the mayor and Natividad noted that tourism is perking up and that it should be the common concern of all to preserve the early gains in order to achieve more in this area of concern.

The monthly Peace and Order Council meeting was also attended by National Police Commission chairman Teodulo Natividad, NBI director Jolly Bugarin and ranking officers of the WPD.

Meanwhile, Bagatsing expressed his gratitude to President Marcos for the extension of Cabrera as WPD superintendent. Cabrera was supposed to have retired Dec 18, but his services were extended by Marcos on recommendation of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA SERIES EXAMINES NPA ACTIVITY IN SAMAR

Quezon City ANC PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20-21 Dec 84

[Article in three parts by Joel Paredes; part one not received: "Encounter in Samar"]

[20 Dec 84 pp 1, 8]

[Text]

There is a popular NPA ditty in Waray depicting NPA rebels as eagles "who would grab the guns of abusive soldiers and then disappear."

In the advancing rebel insurgency in this poverty-stricken island, the NPAs have pursued their objectives with daring, routing military outposts and townhalls in commando-size raids.

This year alone, the NPAs claim to have carried out at least 34 raids on military detachments, carting away guns and ammunitions and punishing "abusive soldiers" found to have "oppressed the masses" in the military's anti-insurgency drive.

But rebel life is not spent entirely in the field laying traps and ambuscades against patrolling counter-insurgency

forces. Rebels live in small villages and camps where they sing songs at night and talk endlessly of commitment to the cause of the revolutionary movement. They are scattered throughout Western Samar, usually in mountaintop clearings reached by remote mountain passes.

These mountaintop "fortresses" are reported to be impregnable. "In this place it would be impossible for the soldiers to get us," boasted Ka Aldo in a commanding voice, as he took a sip of brewed soya beans.

Ka Aldowaaon, a senior priest, who joined the revolutionary movement "as a personal choice. Now, I seldom pray. I don't even go to church but still believe in God. There are more pressing problems that need a solution for the people," he says.

His commitment to the "revolutionary struggle," like the rest of the Red Lighters, and his determination to liberate the people from social ills are unflinch-

ing. This commitment to the movement has taken them away from their relatives and families, but it's a sacrifice they have learned to undertake in the name of the struggle.

A case in point is Ka Idaw, a 37-year-old peasant-turned-rebel, who crossed the mountains in 1974 and became a red fighter.

"The basic reason I left my own family and stayed in the mountains to fight is that I want to help in the cause to solve problems of the people. We will not be liberated if I stay with my family," he said.

Idaw has not seen his parents for the past three years. He met a native girl in one remote barrio and decided to marry her when she accepted the principles laid by the party.

In the jungles the guerrillas find peace of mind. Ka Dodong, a 34-year-old NPA

commander, recalled he was a student activist in a veterinary school in Samar when he decided to flee to the mountains after the military launched a crackdown in their town in 1974. Dodong, then a graduating student, was joined by five other classmates and became instrumental in the NPA mass organizations in the barrios. Since then, they never returned home. One of Dodong's classmates was later killed in an encounter.

Dodong said they have reached the point in the struggle where they can now easily convince the people that they are "genuine liberating forces." Despite the government's black propaganda, Dodong said they respect human rights.

"For us human rights is a part of man, that should be respected. It is the right of expression. Under a dictatorship, when you talk about your suffering, you get

jailed. It's a political right of men," he said.

For a man who joined the Party 9 years ago, Dodong says he enjoys guerilla life despite its physical hardship. Most of the time, Dodong leads a squad of rebels who are out of the field for weeks carrying their heavy provisions, but rarely do they face open encounters with the military. Although highly-organized, the rebels prefer to take the defensive position when the government troops advance.

But Dodong says he is convinced that rebels will win in the struggle since they have the support of the masses. Day and night, they don't only wage armed struggle, they share to the masses their political cause.

During the night the rebels would mingle with the villagers and render a cultural presentation. They sing revolutionary songs and their dance depicts the guerilla struggle.

[21 Dec 84 pp 1, 2]

[Text]

A Catholic priest last week met in Calbayog City community organizers tasked by the human settlements ministry to pave the way for the government's design package for the "11 basic needs of man."

But the government men were shocked to hear the respected church leader tell them, "You're late. They (New People's Army) were here first."

The talk around town is that the guerrillas have been organizing years before the government seriously considered prioritizing the remote barrios in this mountainous island province.

The common folk, to the NPA is the source of their strength in building up the three main weapons: the communist party, a people's army and the united front.

I was witness to how

the "red fighters" crossed the borders where they were warmly welcomed by the barrio folk. From the mountain trail, the rebels would send advance teams to the villages where they maintain contacts who mobilize the people. Why?

The NPA organizers, it seems, stick to the basic "from the masses to the masses" principle. Whenever they enter a barrio, they act in protection of the people.

So-called "enemies of the people," like cut-throats, rapists, killers, and thieves are hunted down and given a talk by the red fighters. After some time, if these people still continue with their ways, further measures are taken against them.

After military informers and spies are taken care of, then the barrio people are organized into several org-

nizations where they could participate in community life.

The NPA cadres let the people run their own affairs after giving them the basics in defense, education, organizational work, health and economics.

In one barrio, an elderly woman said that the NPAs entered their barrio in 1979. The NPA had launched several campaigns against landlords with the peasants hiding sacks of their produce from the landlords.

This is called the secret reduction plan which the NPAs encourage when landlords do not directly manage the vast lands. The struggles are heightened when the landlords try to take the law to the hinterlands and some farmers are taken and sometimes killed.

Thus, NPAs expand their organizing efforts, directly facing the administrator of the lands or the landlords themselves to convince them to give in to an "open reduction" in land rent. From the usual 70-30 percentage share in favor of the landlords, peasants ask for more equitable share so that they can sustain their families.

At first, peasants could hardly accept such ideas because of prevailing "utang na loob" concept. But NPAs explain to them that they are the tillers of the lands and as such, they should have a bigger share. In tracing the roots of how the lands were usually acquired by the landlords (usually through land-grabbing), the NPAs get

the assent of the peasants to launch their campaigns to reduce land rent.

As these campaigns are launched, the peasants are taught through their experience, how unity in action and thought, under the leadership of the NPAs, could help them in the uplift of their lot. Thus, the organizing process starts.

Peasant organizations are then formed. Gains achieved through their mass actions have to be protected from the landlords who usually use government troops and laws to try to get their lands back.

Peasant organizations take on five aspects: defense, education, organization, economic, and medical. Defense teams, armed with home-made shotguns called "pugakang," are trained by the NPAs and protect the barrios from the return of "bad elements."

They also take on the active defense of the barrio from government troops usually called in by landlords. Its education teams take on the task of upgrading the peasant's education, launching literacy campaigns to introduce the people to "the letters," then upgrading this to more political courses, and assessments of their mass actions and the general condition of the barrio.

A 56-year-old farmer said that he first encountered the NPAs when they taught him how to write, together with other barrio folk. The

world was opened to him through books that sometimes find their way into the barrios.

Now, this farmer is part of the barrio medical group which helps in concocting herbal medicines used by the folks to treat simple illnesses. Complicated medical needs, like surgery or the control of epidemics are undertaken by NPA medical teams who usually visit the barrios.

Acupuncture, the Chinese traditional medical practice using needles, are widely used by the NPAs. Before, the old man said, epidemics wiped out scores of residents who never see a doctor.

In the economic sphere, the barrio folk form so-called "tiklos" or mutual-aid teams, which plant and harvest crops used for sustaining their needs. TIKLOS are usually given the lands which had been vacated by landlords in their area.

Depending on the barrio folks' need, the NPAs are given a share from the produce of the peasants.

The NPAs expand their economic programs through the setting up of consumers, marketing and credit cooperatives.

In a barrio we visited, the people have set up a consumers cooperative where they get a 10 per cent interest, to be divided among the cooperative members. A portion of the profit is in turn given to the rebels. This scheme, according to the NPA, is being practiced in some 600 cooperatives in

Western Samar alone.

But the military does not take these developments lightly. The NPAs claimed they have seized documents that the government had launched in a massive counter-insurgency campaign called "Operation Take All" since 1982. The four phases of the program start with the recruitment of deep penetration agents which enter the critical areas. The intelligence work would later expand into teams until they have reached that stage when they can already launch assaults.

The counter-insurgency plan reportedly includes the involvement of government agencies to win the people's sympathy.

This writer tried to get the side of the regional unified command but a military spokesman, who identified himself as a Col. Nazareno said information of that nature could only be disclosed by higher authorities. The regional unified commander, Gen. Salvador Mison, was not available for comment.

However, Col. Nazareno said they have stepped up a campaign to promote human rights which they say the NPAs capitalize on, saying soldiers are often the frequent violators. The military officer pointed out that they have specific guidelines from Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos, acting armed forces chief, who recently instituted a combination of civilian and military in councils to counter the insurgency problem.

PHILIPPINES

AIR FORCE CHIEF CONTRARY ON NAPALM STORES

Bombs Said in Arsenal

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Dec 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Jimmy Montejo]

[Text] Philippine Air Force chief Maj Gen Vicente Piccio admitted yesterday that the government has napalm bombs in its arsenal, giving the lie to staunch denials by top officials of the military establishment including Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen Fabian Ver that the AFP has no such bombs.

"We have napalm in the Philippines...it is war material that can be used when the need arises," Piccio said in answer to reporters' questions at a year-end press conference at his Villamor Air Base headquarters yesterday.

At the press conference, during which he dwelt lengthily on the capabilities of his command, Piccio gave broad hints of a buildup of the Armed Forces, both in men and materiel, that is continuing into 1985.

He disclosed that the armored vehicles seen in Manila's streets during the crisis over the President's health were only part of orders for more military hardware not only by the Air Force but by the entire AFP to combat the growing insurgency.

"More are still coming...that's not the end of the shipment; the total number has not arrived yet," Piccio said. "So those will be continuing up to next year and this is an answer to the problems obtaining in the Philippines today."

Revealing that he had sent to his AFP superiors an Air Force study that contains a "prognosis" of "things to come, particularly in 1985," Piccio said the PAF will be "deeply involved" in counter-insurgency.

"Definitely the Armed Forces of the Philippines will launch a very extensive program to check the growth of insurgency--that you can expect from the AFP--and the PAF will be a direct strong participant," the Air Force chief emphasized.

Components, Not Stockpiles

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 22 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Philippine Air Force chief Maj Gen Vicente Piccio, Jr, yesterday clarified a Malaya story quoting him as admitting that the government has napalm bombs in its arsenal. Piccio said "we have only the components of a napalm bomb, but not the finished product."

PAF spokesman Col Pablo Gonzales told Malaya that Gen Picco did not mean to belie earlier denials by top military officials notably Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Gen Fabian C. Ver, AFP chief, that the military has no such bombs.

Minister Enrile and Gen Ver were right in saying that we have no napalm bombs, Piccio stressed.

He explained that although we have the necessary materials to manufacture the bomb, we do not store it in the arsenal, since its effectiveness lasts only 48 hours.

During last Thursday's press conference at his Villamor Air Base headquarters, Gen Piccio, however, failed to make such explanation.

"We have napalm in the Philippines...it is a war material that can be used when the need arises," he said during the conference.

He added, though, that he would not recommend its use to the President "who is the only one who can release it."

CSO: 4200/497

PHILIPPINES

COMMANDER DENIES TRAINING REBEL RETURNEES FOR PRIVATE ARMIES

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 21 Dec 84 p 10

[Text] "We are not training civilian volunteers to be used as "private armies" but to augment the security forces in their respective localities." This was clarified by Capt Dominador Tagorda, commanding officer of the 2nd Company, 1st Battalion, Philippine Army (Airborne), assigned in this capital town.

Capt Tagorda made this clarification to debunk a news article published in the local daily newspaper that some civilian volunteers who are NPA and BMA returnees, are being trained by the Philippine Army's special forces to serve as "private armies" of government officials for their personal interest.

According to Capt Tagorda, the 60 civilian volunteers who had just been trained by the elements of 205th Controlling Team, PA (Airborne) headed by Capt Santiago Ortiz in Mati, Davao Oriental are part of the more than 200 civilian volunteers who have been trained in Davao Oriental.

He explained that civilian volunteers are properly screened to see to it that they are qualified before they undergo military combat training. The Airborne handles the administrative and operational control of civilian home defense forces during the duration of the training, Tagorda added.

Capt Tagorda said that the training of civilian volunteers is in line with the policy of RUC XI Commander Brig Gen Jaime Echeverria in strengthening the rural villages' defense forces against subversive terrorists and lawless elements. The latest batch of CHDF trainees are expected to return to their respective barangays in Mati, Davao Oriental.

He also stressed that although the training of CHDF volunteers was recommended by Gov Francisco Rabat, the para-military forces will be under the tactical supervision of the military commander in the province.--(JAC)

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA COLUMNIST ON COMMUNIST TRIUMPH BY DEFAULT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Dec 84 p 4

["This Is My Own" by Joaquin R. Roces: "All Communism Needs is that Democracy Fail"]

[Text] Our dear President tends to gauge the revolutionary situation in the country today as reflected by its visible manifestations. Because some of the top leaders of the Communist Party have been captured and are now in jail, he feels that the communists cannot win and that he is in full control of the situation.

Perhaps the communists cannot win over the government in an open battle but the government can still lose by default. All they need is for democracy to fail. For democracy does not necessarily mean the holding of elections and all those rituals but it means providing for the greatest majority the greatest good.

What happens today is that the moment there is a strike in a factory because workers want better wages, or are fighting for other basic rights, our leaders are quick to point out that this is all happening because of communist agitation. Labor leaders are arrested, sometimes jailed, and they consider the problem solved. They will not give enough credit to the workers' legitimate desire to improve their lot in present-day society, and having put away the supposed agitators, they will not do anything else to improve the economic situation.

The moment there is a move on the part of the students to gather together to make known their views, our leaders will not even want to sit down with them, and if they march in the streets and hold noisy rallies, it is all attributed to "instigation by the communists." Some student leaders are arrested, some simply disappear and, having done away with the student leaders, we all expect the student problem to go away.

The moment there are people who have lived in their lands for centuries who resist the government when the latter tries to eject them from these lands in order to make way for huge corporations or other forms of what they call development, they are immediately accused of being led by communists and their leaders are arrested and declared to be public enemies.

They, as a people, are never credited with the dignity and the courage to fight for what they believe is their inherent right.

The government forgets that American settlers fought the Indians in America for almost a hundred years, and the Indians fought back for as long until they were decimated, but that the Indians never needed any communists to instigate them to fight for their ancestral lands.

The communists very seldom set up explosions of their own. But they are experts in exploiting explosive situations. They do not create explosive situations. Our government has been quite adept at doing that for them for the last twenty years.

Whether the communist leaders are out of jail or not, there will be a lot of spontaneous combustion so long as we do not promote honest-to-goodness social reform. What is happening here cannot be isolated from what is happening in all the other Third World countries in the world. Jailing and killing the leaders will help no more than jailing and killing (whoever did it) Aquino, will help put down Aquino's beliefs. His ghost today still haunts every single government office and municipal building in the country today.

The visible manifestations of a revolution only tell one half of the story. What is invisible is the intellectual revolution that has been going on. The masses of people who were not thinking at all have learned how to think for themselves. How to dream. And thoughts and dreams are invisible.

All those jeepney drivers that we can no longer control or discipline--they spell revolution. All those squatters who will not budge from their lands and will trade rocks as against the policemen's clubs and bullets--they spell revolution. All those sidewalk vendors that we keep on clearing but are there anyway the very next day--they spell revolution. All those policemen, soldiers and other armed units that keep on shooting and killing each other in all kinds of foolish encounters--they spell revolution.

The communists do not have to win. All they need is that we fail.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

REBELS EXECUTE FIVE IN ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 22 Dec 84 pp 1, 14

[Text]

ZAMBOANGA CITY — A municipal councilor, a barangay captain, and three others, including two religious leaders, were executed by New People's Army (NPA) rebels in two incidents in Zamboanga del Norte Thursday.

A Constabulary report received by Col. Carlos Aguilar, 9th PC commander, said Sangguniang Bayan member Francisco Miraveles of Jose Dalman, Zamboanga del Norte, and three others were picked up from their houses in barangay Separoc, Jose Dalman and executed by the NPAs.

The other victims, identified as Sabelano Miraveles of Separoc; Maloney Ciamale, religious leader; and Damilo Guillio, student.

Meanwhile, Feliciano Sobrando, 47, a member of the Seventh Day Adventists in San Miguel, Polanco, Zamboanga del Norte, was beheaded and his sex organ mutilated.

Sobrando's body was found near his house.

The victim was re-

portedly picked up by armed men believed to be NPAs before he was killed. (Vic Arevalo)

PAGADIAN CITY — A barangay councilman and a policeman were liquidated by suspected members of a New People's Army "sparrow" unit yesterday in separate incidents in Zamboanga del Sur.

Col. Romeo Abendan, Constabulary provincial commander, identified the slain councilman as Nono Neri, 38, of barangay Mabuhay, San Pablo.

Neri was walking home after a business deal in town when he was gunned down.

The victim was believed executed for his active participation in anti-dissident campaigns in his village.

The slain policeman, Pvt. Crispin Adalim of Molave, was serving a summons in barangay Kapalarang when four armed men accosted him and later shot him.

Earlier, a member of the Civilian Home Defense Force and a gambling coordinator were slain by rebels in the province.

Abendan identified

the fatalities as Rolando Cataylo, 29, CHDF member, of barangay Villacorte, Olutanga and Juanito Elum, 35, of barangay Sagacad, Dinas town. (Tony Pa. Rimando)

Army Rangers of the Region VI Unified Command killed 12 unidentified NPA rebels during a reconnaissance operation in Tapaz, Capiz and Libacao, Aklan, last Wednesday.

A report sent to Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, Armed Forces chief of staff, through Brig. Gen. Pedro R. Balbanero, AFP military police commanding general, said the rangers were ambushed in a remote sitio in Tapaz at 9:30 a.m.

During the ensuing clash, three rangers were wounded while crawling toward the NPA command post, the field commanders said.

The soldiers captured five rebels and recovered high-powered firearms after a 30-minute firefight.

In a related development, Army troops battled yesterday with heavily armed rebels in Western Samar, killing at least six rebels and wounding two others.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

LANAO NPA HIT LIST TARGETS 20 OFFICIALS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 22 Dec 84 p 27

[Article by Tony Pe. Rimando]

[Text]

ILIGAN CITY — At least 20 ranking military and civil government officials have been marked for liquidation by the New People's Army sparrow unit in Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte until the end of this year, it was learned here recently.

Col. Abraham Manuel, commanding officer of the Army's two-thirds infantry brigade, said the execution plot was unearthed through subversive documents seized by the military from Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) terrorists captured last month during several encounters in the two Lanao provinces.

Col. Manuel informed the Office of Media Affairs (OMA) that the mission to liquidate the 20 officials had been assigned to a specially-trained band of the NPA's sparrow unit known as "Hingpit Yunit Partisano" (HYP) reportedly organized by a CPP-NPA committee identified as "Territoryo Partisano Komite" (TPK).

The TPK, Manuel said, was also tasked to engage in black propaganda against top government men and, ultimately, incite rural inhabitants to rebel against the local and national governments.

Col. Manuel also reported a CPP plan to widen and strengthen its organization and mass base support in rural and urban communities of the Lanao provinces with top priority to Iligan City where most of the major industries in the southern Philippines are located.

Captured CPP documents further revealed a program of the dissidents to solicit the support of professional and business sectors as well as industrial firm workers in CPP-NPA expansion plan.

At least 16 prominent business and professional leaders in the Lanao areas have been reportedly identified as already providing assistance to the subversive elements, Manuel said. (Tony Pe. Rimando)

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

UNREST, DISLOCATION IN ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR REPORTED

'Religious Fanatics' Active

Quezon City ANG PAYAHAGANG MALAYA in English 22 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Article by Noel Bartolome]

[Text] Residents of five remote barangays in Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur, have fled in fear from their homes following the brutal killing of six members of a farmer's family allegedly by dreaded religious fanatics actively operating in the area and apparently backed by the military.

Malaya learned that at least 300 families have left their farms in the barangays of Matalang, Pisumpungan, Tulwan, Canipay Norte and Canipay Sur to hide from the notorious "Tadtad" group that has allegedly butchered many victims at the northeastern and central parts of the province.

The latest victims who were hacked to death last Dec 12 in Barangay Matalang were identified as Loreta Domino, 42, her sons Nestor, 22, Cemerito, 9, brother Eugenio, 38 and his wife Lucena, 19, and the couple's daughter Neizel, 3.

According to Simplicio Adolfo, 46, second husband of Loreta, he found his family murdered when he came home from the neighboring town of Ramon Magsaysay. The victims had multiple hack wounds in different parts of their bodies.

Adolfo told Malaya that he and his only surviving son Dionilo, 4, have evacuated from their barangay, together with most of the residents, after the burial of the victims.

Adolfo said he cannot attend now to the farming of Loreta's 10 hectare-land since he may not be able to live again in Matalang. He fears the religious fanatics may return to finish him.

The farmer said the "Tadtad" group could have suspected him of being of the New People's Army (NPA) after he entertained 10 rebels at his home four months ago.

Father Marcus Keyes, 45, parish priest of Midsalip, said the evacuees have fled mostly to the Poblacion and other nearby barangays, and are now staying with their relatives and friends.

The priest said they expect more residents to flee their homes as the "Tadtad" and other fanatic groups were intensifying their operations in far-flung areas most of which are adjacent to the rebel-infested Salug Valley mountains.

Keyes said 96 families also fled barangay Tulwan last Nov 27 after three nipa huts were burned reportedly by religious fanatics and member of the Integrated Civilian Home Defense Forces (ICHDF).

Burned were the houses of barangay captain Bartolome Batuta, Imid Sumabay and Wenceslao Yurfo. The latter's small warehouse was also gutted by fire.

The Irish priest stressed that the people in isolated areas are helpless and vulnerable to religious fanatics, ICHDF and some abusive elements of the military.

He said the barangay people are often left with no choice but to flee from their homes even as they believe nothing would result in complaining to the authorities.

Keyes explained that the residents believe that the "Tadtad" along with the other fanatic groups such as the Rock Christ, 4ks, Muslim Christian Rebels (MCR), Ilagas, Dos por Dos, El Librecom, World Crusaders' Army, Santa Lana, and Haring Galum are being used by the military in terrorizing remote areas where NPA fighters allegedly take refuge.

The barangay people said that the attacks against innocent civilians by the fanatics are intended to scare residents and force them to leave their homes so that the rebels will have no more sanctuaries to go to.

Keyes pointed out that the evacuees have also left their farms--their only source of livelihood, and now depend solely on relatives, friends and the church people.

He said the parish is now gathering relief goods for the evacuees.

Meanwhile, Bishop Antonio Tobias of Pagadian City said the ICHDF must be abolished and the soldiers removed from their positions to effect restoration of peace in the province.

Tobias added that as evidenced by their immunity from arrest, the fanatics definitely have connections with the military.

Subanon Tribe Threatened

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 23 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Article by Noel Bartolome]

[Text] The Subanons, a tribe that once dominated the mountains of Zamboanga del Sur are now on the verge of extinction, as big rubber plantation owners and loggers are allegedly using military men and religious fanatics to terrorize the tribes out of their ancestral lands.

This development has forced most of the almost 5,000 Subanon tribesmen to leave their mountain homes and mingle with Christians and Muslims in the lowland where they have no farms or sources of livelihood.

According to Linda Albaira, 27, a volunteer worker, most Subanons have been ejected from their lands since 1980, following massive militarization in the Salug Valley mountains where New People's Army (NPA) rebels are reportedly based.

She said that in barangay Bugwan, Bayog, a big logging consortium was reported to have acquired rights to a Subanon sanctuary last September.

The next month, the area was declared a "no man's land" by the military, as troopers escalated operations, thereby driving the helpless tribesmen out of their lands, she said.

Albaira said the natives fled their homes and some are now staying at the Bayog Convent, while others migrated to Pagadian City.

In the town of Kabansalan, the dreaded religious fanatic groups Tadtad and Rock Christ have allegedly massacred several tribesmen, resulting in the evacuation of the Subanons from even their remote highlands homes.

The tribesmen from the hills of Dumingag have fled their homes after fanatic groups attacked the native farmers suspected of sympathizing with NPA rebels.

Albaira said the Subanons are having a hard time adjusting to their new life in the towns, since they are used to living in remote areas, away from civilization.

She said the tribesmen have been forced to take all sorts of jobs to survive in the areas where they evacuated.

Subanons usually lived by farming the hillside to root crops, rice and raising livestocks. But with their traditional homeland gone they are facing hunger in the lowland where work skills which they do not have are required.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

COLONEL, OTHERS FACE CHARGES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Dec 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos, acting Armed Forces chief of staff, approved yesterday the court martial of a lieutenant colonel for graft and corrupt practices, the discharge of five soldiers and the demotion of three others for various offenses.

Col Eustaquio Purugganan, the AFP inspector general, has recommended the trial of Lt Col Eufracio Canezal for demanding "grease money" from Cotta-bato Consolidated Timberland Industries (CCTI) and Cotabato Rolato Raiser's Association.

Canezal was likewise found harassing logging concessionaires by conducting an "off and on" checkpoint outside his area of responsibility and for having impounded a CCTI tractor without any valid cause.

At the time, he was assigned to the 11th Regional Home Defense Unit (RHDU), ARESCOM, PA, in San Gabriel, Davao City.

T/Sgt Rodolfo Calogay and C2C Nonilon Fajardo were discharged from the service for their alleged participation in the killing of police Cpl Ceferino Dinalagan last August in Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur.

Calogay and Fajardo, both assigned to the 11th Civil Relations Group, CRS, were charged with murder and a conspiracy to commit a crime.

A third suspect, T/Sgt Filmore Viola, was earlier discharged from the service by Brig Gen Dionisio Tan-Gatue, PC Recom 11 commander. He is also charged with murder in a case already filed in court.

Marine Cpl Cionisio Terrado was also dishonorably discharged for the alleged murder of barangay captain Amado Ragos in barangay Caanamangon, Sta. Ignacia, Tarlac, last March.

Investigation showed that Errado shot Ragos despite the pleadings of Mrs Lydia Ragos, the victim's wife.

C1C James Razon was discharged for grave threats on Noel Daisy and for indiscriminate firing of his M-16 rifle, causing fear and panic among residents of Tatalon, Quezon City, last April 18.

T/Sgt Jose Angcao was also discharged for abandonment and non-support of his common law wife and their two daughters.

Navy Petty officer Oscar Alegre, Sgt Adelino Romero and AlC Alexander Fajardo were demoted two ranks lower for physical injuries, grave threats and alarm and scandal, and breach of promise to marry, respectively.

Fajardo was accused by Ms Antonio Briones of having carnal knowledge with her on the promise of marrying her.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

AFP-NPA GUNBATTLES KILL ELEVEN

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 23 Dec 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] Eight rebels and three government troopers were killed, while ten civilians were injured, in a spate of clashes between the military and the New People's Army in Cagayan, Camarines Sur, and Agusan del Norte this week.

Six of the rebels were killed last Thursday in a surprise raid on an NPA hideout at sitio Lumata, Bunugan Surong, Baggao, Cagayan, by scout rangers of the Army 1st Infantry brigade.

The six, four of whom were identified only as alias Ka Myra, Ka BJ, Ka Charlie and Ka Reggi, were part of a 25 heavily-armed NPA band. The rest of the group fled during a 30-minute firefght with the military, although investigators said several members could have been injured as bloodstains were found along escape routes.

The army recovered several firearms and rounds of ammunition belonging to the rebels.

In Camarines Sur, meanwhile, two unidentified rebels were killed in a gunbattle last Dec 19 with soldiers of the 247th PC company in barangay San Isidero, Buhi town.

The rebels were reportedly forcing jeepney drivers plying the Iriga-Buhi route to attend an NPA-sponsored seminar when spotted by the soldiers. Their companion, identified only as "Ka Gavino," managed to escape.

Two of the three government troopers were killed when a military truck of the 29th Infantry Battalion stationed at Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte, was ambushed yesterday by 30-fully armed NPA men at barangay Balijian, Jabonga, Agusan del Norte, 62 kilometers northeast from Butuan City.

The fatalities were identified as Corporals Samuel Pabaro and Alredo Ortiz, driver of the truck. Wounded were Cpl Basanting and Pfc Balatnia.

Reports reaching headquarters of the 2nd Infantry brigade, Fourth Infantry division, showed that the army truck was negotiating a zigzag portion of the highway from Bag-as, Surigao del Norte when ambushed.

Meanwhile, two suspected members of the NPA sparrow unit being trailed by a PC team in barangay Bading, three kilometers north of Butuan city, lobbed a handgrenade on the path of the pursuing military jeep, injuring eight civilian bystanders.

The two suspects jumped from the NPA tricycle they were driving and lost themselves in nearby shanty houses.

The injured civilians were brought to the government hospital.

Less than three hours later and two kilometers away from the grenade-throwing, a constable driving his own tricycle was shot dead with a 45-caliber pistol by one of his four passengers, believed to be an NPA member.

Police identified the victim as Sgt Nelson Devera of the local constabulary command.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

ESTABLISHMENT COLUMNIST FAVORS ANTINUCLEAR ACTIVITY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 22 Dec 84 p 6

[Commentary by Apolonio Batalla: "Anti-nuclear protests"]

[Text]

THE President discussed Yokosuka with some American military officers last Thursday.

Yokosuka is a Japanese naval base which shelters Japanese and American naval installations. One part is occupied by the US navy, the other by the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force.

Yokosuka cropped up in the conversations probably because of the recent visit to the port of the USS Carl Vinson, the newest American nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

On Dec. 10, opposition groups from the Japan Socialist Party, labor unions, the Japan Communist Party, and other leftist organizations, went out to sea in a flotilla of 24 boats to block the entry of the aircraft carrier.

But the protesters did not succeed because the vessel entered port one hour earlier than scheduled.

The protest was based on the three non-nuclear principles of Japan — non-manufacture, non-possession, and non-entry.

Under the US-Japan Status of Forces agreement, prior consultation with the Japanese government is required if the US forces are to carry nuclear weapons into Japan.

No consultation was made in the case of the aircraft carrier because the Japanese government believed the vessel was not armed with nuclear weapons.

That had also been the case when other US ships entered Japan. But a majority of Japanese polled suspected that the ships carried nuclear weapons.

It is likely that the entry of some US warships into Japan will continue to stir controversy on account of the deep-seated feelings of the Japanese about nuclear weapons.

Similar feelings were manifested last year before and during the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

While protesters in those countries and in Japan are in the minority, it is clear nonetheless that the protests have had an impact on governments and policies.

We think that Filipinos are no less sensitive than other peoples, if we are to judge by the protests against the nuclear power plant. That plant in Bataan might have been operating by now if it had not been for the vigorous protests launched by various groups.

It is turning out that in view of the protests the government has been compelled to carefully examine the safety measures taken so far in order to determine their adequacy.

Our impression is more and more people around the world are becoming increasingly wary of nuclear devices, especially nuclear weapons, and this we think is a healthy development because a strong worldwide public opinion may have a decisive effect on the nuclear race between the superpowers.

Almost everybody on this planet, at present, is against the use of nuclear weapons. Even the superpowers themselves do not relish the idea of using nuclear weapons against each other because they know that destruction will be the consequence of a nuclear war.

But while there is unanimity in principle, total opinion has not been mobilized and harnessed. The result is opposition is nothing much more than indifference.

That is probably one of the reasons for the uncertain pace of the negotiations on arms control between the governments of the superpowers.

Maybe it is time that in each country, no matter the size, some private organization should be initiated to launch a nationwide movement ... against nuclear weapons. Then, having gained size and respectability, the organization should join all the others to form a world organization directed against nuclear arms.

There is abundant evidence that the superpowers are developing more sophisticated weapons of destruction. Technology is growing by leaps and bounds, and the end of nuclear technology is not in sight.

CSO: 4200/407

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

MINDANAO ELECTIONS POSTPONED--Elections in the autonomous regions of Mindanao will be held in May next year instead of May this year to coincide with the local elections. This is contained in Cabinet Bill No 2 otherwise known as the omnibus election code of 1985 which is now on first reading at the Batasang Pambansa. Under the bill, special elections for vacant seats in the Batasan will also be held next year to minimize on electoral expenses. [From the "Newswatch" program] [Text] [Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 16 Jan 85 OW]

CAMPAIGN AGAINST RECOVERY PROGRAM--The National Alliance for Justice, Freedom, and Democracy and other militant mass organizations have launched a 3-month campaign against the government's economic recovery program. This was disclosed today during a press conference at the University of the Philippines. The organizers dubbed their campaign as the first quarter offensive against the U.S.-IMF-WB-Marcos regime impositions. The January to March campaign is to be characterized by pickets and strikes building up to nationally coordinated mass actions by the end of the first quarter. [From the "Newswatch" program] [Text] [Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 16 Jan 85 OW]

PIRATES ATTACK CRUISE SHIP--Manila, 16 January KYODO--Pirates attacked the cruise ship "Coral Princess" in Philippine waters Tuesday as it made its way slowly toward Yokohama to pick up about 250 Japanese tourists, shipping agents said Wednesday. The Philippine Coast Guard said 11 pirates in 3 outrigger canoes started to board the cruise liner at dawn as it approached Cebu Port from Bali with 260 passengers, mostly Australians and New Zealanders. Nobody was hurt. Gunfire from a Coast Guard patrol boat sank one outrigger canoe. One pirate had reached the cruise liner's deck but jumped overboard. The 11 escaped unhurt in the remaining two canoes. A Coast Guard spokesman said the pirates frequently tried to steal cargoes from foreign freighters moored around Mactan Island near Cebu. It was the first time they attempted to board a passenger liner, the Coast Guard said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT 16 Jan 85 OW]

ARMY TROOPS OVERRUN MAGUINDANAO NPA CAMP--Army troopers overran last Friday a rebel camp in Maguindanao, killing three dissidents and capturing a commander during a 90-minute firefight, according to a belated report received at the office of Maj Gen Josephus Ramas, Army chief. Col Homer Capulong, 35th Infantry Battalion commander, identified the captured rebel leader as Commander Malik Ibrahim. He said an informer tipped off the Army soldiers about the presence of the camp operated by the New People's Army in Dalag, Buluan, Maguindanao. Capulong immediately formed a special team composed of Army soldiers and members of the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF). Capulong said three dead terrorists were left behind after the gunbattle. Several others were believed wounded but they were brought along by their comrades in their escape. (PNA) [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Dec 84 p 10]

MANILA COLUMNIST VIEWS 'COMPARATIVE PEACE' OF CEBU--Cebu City is perhaps one of the few urban centers in the country where people live in comparative peace and contentment. Business is good--in fact, even better now with the tourism trade booming--and the law and order situation is much better than, say, Metro Manila. The Cebuanos attribute this to the existence of a "strong middle class" and the atmosphere of freedom under which they live. And media men are one in saying that in this Queen City of the South, "freedom rings!" Permits for rallies and demonstrations are given as a matter of course, Cebu City Mayor Ronaldo Duterte says. "All we ask of them is a signed statement that they will preserve order and police their own ranks," he says, "and they are held responsible for any trouble that should arise." As for the tourist boom, Duterte has a simple explanation for it. "Our place has many natural attractions and we give the tourists the red-carpet treatment," he says. "Moreover, their safety and well-being is our primary concern." Without realizing it, Duterte has pointed to one of the reasons why a growing number of tourists are shying away from Manila where they have become victims of criminal elements and, worse, even those who are duty-bound to protect them. Indeed, Cebu City has set an example which others would be well advised to follow. [by Orlando F. Aquino] [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Dec 84 p 6]

CSO: 4200/407

THAILAND

BUDGET DIRECTOR ON LONG RANGE OUTLOOK, POSSIBLE SAVINGS

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 23 Nov 84 pp 46-47

[Interview with Badi Unyanon (49 years), director of the Budget Office]

[Text] [Question] To what extent do you think the six points submitted to the Cabinet as means of economizing to relax the budgetary burden will actually succeed in relaxing the burden on the budget?

[Answer] If government agencies take the measures that the Budget Office submitted to the Cabinet for discussion and approval as standards to follow having the Cabinet's approval, then they will probably help a lot to relax the burdens affecting all sectors of government because of the change in the monetary exchange rate that the government has announced.

But some government sectors, even if they follow the measures in the Cabinet resolution, will not be completely relieved of the effects, as for example, government agencies with work units abroad, all of whose expenses are directly affected and whose expenses will increase. Savings that follow the standards for program revision will help some, but not completely. Where this occurs, the Budget Office will probably assume the burden by increasing their budgets, but it is asking these government sectors to help themselves by following the aforementioned measures as well. Relief will take two forms. The government sectors can help themselves in part if they economize, and the Budget Office will increase budgets where it sees the need.

[Question] Can you estimate how much the savings will amount to?

[Answer] It is not very easy to estimate what these savings will amount to because it depends on the government sectors holding to the principles and what their expenses are. That is, the savings of government sectors that observe the standards for economizing strictly will be high, but there will probably be government agencies that are unable to implement the measures. So how much they contribute depends on their performance, and this depends on the type of expenses. That is, some types of expenses must be made daily, and some government sectors have been able to economize sufficiently and are unable to save any more except in procurement, where they may economize by waiting or making cuts or there may be no change.

[Question] In what areas can expenses be saved without influencing the entire sector?

[Answer] Fixed expenses are one kind, and there are several other types of expenditures on which government sectors can help to economize. There are procurement expenditures for inventory and durable articles. Replacement of tools of operation can be slowed down. Savings can be made in travel expenses to the provincial governments or by decreasing time and personnel devoted to performing work in different areas and improving scheduling of activities.

Measures have been taken to ask the various government sectors to discuss revising programs for 1985 to carry out the greatest possible economies so that money can be used for expenditures directly affected by the change in the currency exchange rate.

[Question] Is it possible that the savings will make it possible for the allocated budget not to increase?

[Answer] I believe that those government agencies that do not have work units abroad and work units that do not have to procure articles directly from abroad will be able to take care of themselves.

The exception is those with work units abroad or the need to procure and purchase durable goods, machines, or tools from abroad. They will be affected directly if they must procure a needed machine without which a project would be ruined or halted. It depends on how much money is needed for such things. If it is a lot, there will be an effect.

Therefore, the savings called for in the measures may bring in part of the money, but not as much as is needed, depending on how much money is required for the procurement of durable goods.

In any case, if the various government sectors help by economizing according to the standards that have been called for, that will probably help sufficiently, and if some government agencies that do not have large budgets can take care of themselves, the Budget Office will not have to give them more money. But I do not believe that those agencies that are abroad with all kinds of increased expenses requiring foreign currency will be able to take care of themselves even if they economize. They will require more money.

[Question] How much will the contracts that require foreign currency for purchases or hiring increase the budget?

[Answer] Some work units know the figures. For example, the Ministry of Defense, which has a contract to buy military hardware that must be paid for in budget year 1985, must spend an additional 725 million baht. The Ministry of Defense and the various forces will act in accordance with the measures approved by the Cabinet regarding how much they can economize in order to help make up for the extra 700-odd million baht. Anyway, if the Ministry of Defense or the various forces discuss the new programs for 1985, they will probably be able to help some. Some sectors understand it is still quite a lot because they still have large budgets to carry out programs that begin in 1985.

[Question] Will these savings measures affect increased employment and especially hiring?

[Answer] On this the Budget Office itself believes that these measures aim only to save money, not to the extent that programs are cut or that necessary programs are curtailed, but to affect programs as little as possible.

The proposed measures do not cut or curtail hiring, but only revise programs to see if they are unnecessary or can be curtailed without affecting targets, in which case they will only be curtailed or postponed.

I believe that if government sectors carry out the stipulated measures as requested, they can probably help themselves for the most part, while the Budget Office will look after the other part and help so that problems can be resolved.

[Question] The effects will not be as severe as in the cutbacks of 1980?

[Answer] From the estimates of the Budget Office, the situation probably will not be very severe. There will only be some points on which particular problems will have to be solved, such as paying off foreign loans, which will require more money.

Another area is the Ministry of Defense, which has binding contracts. I believe that there ought not to be problems in the remaining areas because, from the figures, the increases appear to be in ordinary expenses that begin in budget year 1985, but if new plans of operation are devised, I believe they probably will be able to help themselves and that they can operate on the money they receive. But there may be some items or work units that have needs they are unable to take care of themselves under the increased burdens, and these the Budget Office will consider and look after.

[Question] Will there be salary adjustments for civil servants if called for?

[Answer] If we have not now budgeted for salary and wage adjustments for government officials, salary and wage adjustment would have to be a special policy or program, and we would have to procure a special budget for it. Increases in the middle of a fiscal year cannot take place if the government does not have much special income to set aside as a budget for the increased expense, as the number of civil servants and employees is such that salary adjustments would cost a lot. Therefore, the budget must be prepared at the beginning or a budgetary act must be proclaimed increasing expenditures for this. If salaries were adjusted without a budget, there probably wouldn't be enough money in the budget.

[Question] How will the six means of saving be supervised?

[Answer] At this time we have asked that it be a policy of the Cabinet to inform various government agencies to carry them out. Government agencies will probably help to supervise their expenses. Some expenses can be saved to help cover those that will increase. Supervision will probably be carried out by

the Budget Office, which will oversee expenditures for all work and all programs according to the measures under which the Budget Office has asked for cooperation from work units. In the period to come we will probably see how effective this will be.

There is another method that the Budget Office has not wanted to use yet but only wants the government sectors to know of and to help themselves, which ought to be sufficient. A stricter method of not approving funds could be used, but that could be effective or it could fail.

Actually, in general, the effects of the change in the currency exchange rate will not be great, because prices in government trade and most will not be changed much, except for things that must be purchased directly from abroad.

[Question] How much time will it take to assess the effects of the economic measures?

[Answer] The Budget Office will review the budgets and expenditures of the various government sectors in April or May. We have stipulated that the various government sectors should petition the Budget Office during the month of May. At that time we will see which government sectors are burdened with increased expenses as a result of the exchange rate reform and how much they are.

We will have a certain amount of expenses on which government sectors can economize to help assume the burden, because in the period from the present until May we should know to what extent the various government sectors have complied with the stipulated measures to save money, how much more will be saved by the end of the year, and how much increased expenditure will be required for which expenses. This will be reviewed to determine how much need there is for increased expenditure and how much government sectors will have saved or be able to save.

[Question] What items will be strongly affected?

[Answer] Only two items cause concern: loan repayment, which is a rather large amount of money, and the debts in the various binding contracts made by the forces for procurement and purchase. These contracts are almost all for foreign currency. The Budget Office is preparing to discuss how much increased expenditure will be required with the forces and believes the problem can be solved so that we are not without the money to pay according to the terms of the contract. We probably will not reach the point where programs or targets to be carried out in fiscal year 1985 would be affected. The various forces are being asked to make some reforms themselves and to decrease the money that must be paid on new contracts in 1985. But these burdens will certainly increase next year, and this is the best we can do at this time because if we don't take these measures, we would have to cut programs or eliminate programs, which would be worse.

[Question] Can you be satisfied that there is nothing to worry about?

[Answer] At this time, I believe that there should not be severe effects on the various government sectors except for the Ministry of Finance, which is a matter that must be discussed in order to find a way to pay off our loans. I believe that after discussion and consultation, a solution will be found.

[Question] What will be the important characteristics of the 1986 budget?

[Answer] At this time the Budget Office has only set a schedule and notified the government sectors that from now until 2 January the government sectors should prepare budget requests for fiscal year 1986 for the Budget Office to discuss. But from now until January, the Budget Office, the Ministry of Finance, the Office of Economic and Social Development, and the Bank of Thailand will have to discuss and consult on what the characteristics of the 1986 budget will be, what programs will be emphasized, how much money will be allocated, particularly for salaries, and to take a detailed look at what expenditures will have to be made in what areas. At this time these discussions have not taken place. It is expected that early next month discussions will take place on budget plans for 1986.

[Question] What annual rate of budget increase would be appropriate?

[Answer] Generally speaking, the rate of increased expenditure in the budget for our country, which is a developing country, should be 10 percent or more, depending on the programs for national development. If there is a low annual increase in the budget for expenditures, programs for development probably will not receive enough money to operate.

But all this also depends on the nation's financial and monetary situation, on economic conditions, and on government policies that use budgetary measures to affect national economic conditions. It also depends on national economic conditions at a particular time whether the budget is to be used to improve those conditions or to stimulate the national economy in certain areas.

[Question] Problems concerning pulling strings

[Answer] This problem probably does not exist, but is only a matter that everyone understands may be a cause for worry as the annual budget is a fixed sum, causing the fear that he who pulls strings well or has influence will be able to request a greater budget.

But we are now discussing a system for fixing the budget with a committee and an economic development plan as the basis for discussions of standards for budget expenditures, considering that which everyone fears, that the budget set by the Budget Office for all the government sectors will not be fair and equal or that they will not receive according to need.

The Budget Office is taking measures that will make it so there is no need to worry about these problems any longer, because it has a system, a program, and standards under discussion. After the discussions it will be handled on the committee level and then it will pass to the level of the legislature. I believe that what is feared--that those with long arms will pull it in--should no longer be a problem.

[Question] Please tell us your work and scholastic background.

[Answer] I have worked in the Budget Office from the beginning of my active life. After I graduated from Chulalongkorn University in the Department of Commerce and Accounting and spent 3 years in the United States, I returned to take my first position in the Budget Office a year after the Budget Office was established. The Budget Office was established in 1959, and I came in 1960. Therefore, it can be said that I have had a post there from about the beginning, just shortly after it originated, and have worked there ever since.

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BIOGRAPHIC

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE PERSONALITIES

[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

Nguyễn Trí Anh [NGUYEENX TRIS ANH], *Colonel

*SRV Military Attaché to Cuba; on 19 December 1984 he participated in ceremonies marking the anniversary of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 84 p 4)

Đặng Tân Bình [DAWNGJ TAANS BINHF]

*Deputy Head of the Agricultural Architecture Planning Institute; his article "The Architect and Agricultural Production" appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 29 Dec 84 p 3)

Nguyễn Thế Bôn [NGUYEENX THEES BOON], *Lieutenant General

On 25 December 1984 he attended the departure of armed forces soccer teams that had competed in the SRV. (NHAN DAN 26 Dec 84 p 1)

Nguyễn Đình Chân [NGUYEENX DINHF CHAAN], Colonel

SRV Military Attaché to Laos; on 22 December 1984 he attended activities marking the anniversary of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 1)

Đỗ Quốc Chính [ZUWONG QUOOC CHINHS]

Chairman of the Public Health and Social Services Committee of the National Assembly; on 24 December 1984 he reported to the National Assembly on preventive medicine and production of medicines. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 4)

Hồng Chương [HOONGF CHUWOWNG]

Vice President of the Vietnam Journalists Association; on 18 December 1984 he attended a reception for a delegation of the International Journalists Association. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Vo Chi Cong [VOX CHIS COONG]

Member of the Political Bureau of the CPV; Secretary of the CPV; on 20 December 1984 he attended a reception for a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 1)

Nguyen Canh Dinh [NGUYEENX CANHR ZINH]

Alternate Member of the CPV Central Committee; President of the Vietnam-Afghanistan Friendship Association; on 28 December 1984 he attended ceremonies marking the 20th anniversary of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party. (NHAN DAN 29 Dec 84 p 1)

Le Thanh Dao [LEE THANH DAOJ]

Chairman of the Youth, Teenagers and Childrens Committee of the National Assembly; on 24 December 1984 he reported to the National Assembly on use of child labor in achieving the 1985 plan. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 4)

Le Dung [LEE ZUNG], deceased

Born on 2 February 1907; former Vice Minister and former Vice Chairman of the Science and Technology Council, Ministry of Communications and Transportation; former delegate to the 1st and 2nd National Assembly; he was in retirement at the time of his death on 27 December 1984. (NHAN DAN 29 Dec 84 p 4)

Nguyen Da Nang [NGUYEENX DAWNG]

Vice Chairman of the Economics, Planning and Budget Committee of the National Assembly; on 24 December 1984 he submitted a report to National Assembly on his committee's plans. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 1)

Nguyen Dieu [NGOO DIEENP]

SRV Ambassador to Cambodia; on 22 December 1984 he participated in activities marking the anniversary of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 4)

Tran Do [TRAANF DOOJ]

Chairman of the Culture and Education Committee of the National Assembly; on 24 December 1984 he submitted a report to the National Assembly on his committee's work. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 1)

Luu Giang [LUWX GIANG], Major General

Commander, Capital Military Region; on 20 December 1984 he attended a reception for a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 1)

Giang Ha [GLANG HAF] aka Be Hoang [BEES HOANGJ], deceased

Born on 15 December 1921 at Hung Dao Village, Hoa An District, Cao Bang Province; began participation in the Revolution in March 1945; Member of the

CPV; former regimental political officer, regimental party committee secretary; former Director of the Central Ethnic Minority Cadre School; former Chief of Cabinet of the Government Nationalities Committee; he died following an illness of 22 December 1984 at the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Hospital. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 84 p 4)

Phí Triệu Hả [PHIS TRIEEUJ HAMF], Major General

Of the Capital Military Region; on 20 December 1984 he attended a reception for a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 1)

Tạ Đình Hiếu [TAJ DINHF HIEEUR], *Major General

Of the Capital Military Region; on 20 December 1984 he attended a reception for a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 1)

Lê Quang Hòa [LEE QUANG HOAF], Lieutenant General

Vice Minister of National Defense; on 20 December 1984 he attended a reception for a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 1)

Tô Hoà [TOO HOAF]

Deputy Secretary General of the Vietnam Journalists Association; on 18 December 1984 he attended a reception for a delegation of the International Journalists Association. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Lê Hoàn [LEE HOANF], *Colonel

Commander, 871st Group; age 38; he was mentioned in an article about his unit. (NHAN DAN 15 Dec 84 p 3)

Lê Minh Hồi [LEE MINH HOOLJ], *Colonel

*Head of the VPA Lecturer Delegation Stationed in Cambodia; on 17 December 1984 he gave a talk on the history of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Nguyễn Quốc Hồng [NGUYEENX QUOOCX HOONCF]

Deputy Chief Procurator, Supreme People's Organ of Control; on 10 December 1984 he received a gift from his Soviet counterpart organization. (NHAN DAN 11 Dec 84 p 4)

Bùi Văn Ích [BUIF VAWN ICHS]

Head of the Cultivated Plant Protection Department, Ministry of Agriculture; his article "Exterminate Insect Pests and Contribute to the Success of the Winter-Spring 1984-85 Harvest" appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 12 Dec 84 p 2)

Nguyễn Nam Khánh [NGUYEENX NAM KHANHS], *Lieutenant General

On 25 December 1984 he attended the departure of a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 26 Dec 84 p 1)

Phạm Sỹ Liêm [PHAMJ SYX LIEEM]

Vice Chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee; *Vice President of the Vietnam-Afghanistan Friendship Association; on 28 December 1984 he attended activities marking the 20th anniversary of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party. (NHAN DAN 29 Dec 84 p 1)

Trần Đức Lương [TRAANF DUWCS LUWOWNG]

*Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee of the National Assembly; on 24 December 1984 he reported to the National Assembly on problems relative to forests and industrial crops. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 1)

Nguyễn Đinh Miền [NGUYEENX DINHF MIEEN]

*Secretary of the CPV Committee, Yen Minh District, Ha Tuyen Province; his article "Yen Minh Strives to Build Itself Into a Good Fighting and Production District" appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI CONG SAN Dec 84 p 58)

Hoàng Mai [HOANGF MAI], *Colonel

*SRV Military Attaché to Hungary; on 17 December 1984 he attended activities marking the VPA anniversary. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Viên Thê Nghiêu [VIEEN THEES NGHIEEU]

Chairman of the People's Committee, Ha Tuyen Province; on 29 December 1984 he participated in ceremonies marking Cuban National Day. (NHAN DAN 31 Dec 84 p 1)

Vũ Nhật [VUX NHAJ], Colonel

SRV Military Attaché in Cambodia; on 17 December 1984 he attended talks on the history of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Trần Văn Quang [TRAANF VAWN QUANG], *Colonel General

On 25 December 1984 he attended the departure of a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 26 Dec 84 p 1)

Nguyễn Văn Quang [NGUYEENX VAWN QUANG]

Charge d'Affaires of the SRV in the USSR; on 18 December 1984 he attended activities in Moscow marking the anniversary of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Trần Mạnh Quý [TRAANF MANHJ QUYS], *Lieutenant Colonel

*Deputy Head of the Training Bureau, Ground Forces Officers School No 1; he was mentioned in an article about his school. (NHAN DAN 17 Dec 84 p 3)

Hoàng San [HOANGF SAN]

Secretary of the CPV Committee, Trang Dinh District, Lang Son Province; his article "The Fighting Stance of the District Level" appeared in the cited source. (TAP CHI CONG SAN Dec 84 p 54)

Trần Sáu [TRAANF SAAM], Lieutenant General

On 22 December 1984 he participated in memorial ceremonies marking the anniversary of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 84 p 4)

Le Trọng Tân [LEE TRONGJ TAANS], *Senior General

On 22 December 1984 he participated in memorial service marking the VPA anniversary. (NHAN DAN 23 Dec 84 p 4)

Đỗ Thị Tài [DOOX THIJ TAIF]

*Head of the Foreign Aid Reception Section, [Ministry of Foreign Affairs]; on 15 December 1984 she was present at the delivery of emergency flood supplies from the USSR. (NHAN DAN 16 Dec 84 p 1)

Hoàng Văn Thái [HOANGF VAWN THAIS], Senior General

Member of the Central Committee of the CPV; Vice Minister of National Defense; on 20 December 1984 he attended a reception for a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 1)

Le Thành [LEE THANH], Major General

SRV Military Attaché to the USSR; on 18 December 1984 he attended activities in Moscow marking the VPA anniversary. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

[NOTE: There appear to be two Major Generals named Le Thành. One is the Deputy Commander of the 7th Military Region, the other is SRV Military Attaché in the USSR.]

Nguyễn Khánh Toàn [NGUYEENX KHANHS TOANF]

Vice President of the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Association; on 19 December 1984 he attended a reception for a delegation from the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Vũ Trí [VUX TRIF], *Lieutenant Colonel

*Head of the Social Science Department, Ground Forces Officers School No 1; he was mentioned in an article about his school. (NHAN DAN 17 Dec 84 p 3)

Đào Tùng [DAOF TUNGF]

Vice President and Secretary General of the Vietnam Journalists Association; on 18 December 1984 he attended a reception of a delegation of the International Journalists Association. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Vương Tường [VUWOWNG TUWOWNGF]

Member of the CPV Central Committee; Secretary of the CPV Committee, Cao Bang Province; recently he visited military personnel stationed in his province. (TIEN PHONG 18-24 Dec 84 p 7)

Hoàng Tùng [HOANGF TUNGF]

Secretary of the CPV; President of the Vietnam Journalists Association; on 19 December 1984 he participated in inaugural ceremonies for the Vietnam Press Center. (NHAN DAN 21 Dec 84 p 4)

Vũ Xuân Vinh [VUX XUAAN VINH], *Major General

On 25 December 1984 he attended the departure of a Cuban military delegation. (NHAN DAN 26 Dec 84 p 1)

Nguyễn Xuân [NGUYEENX XUAAN]

SRV Ambassador to Laos; on 22 December 1984 he attended activities marking the anniversary of the VPA. (NHAN DAN 25 Dec 84 p 1)

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